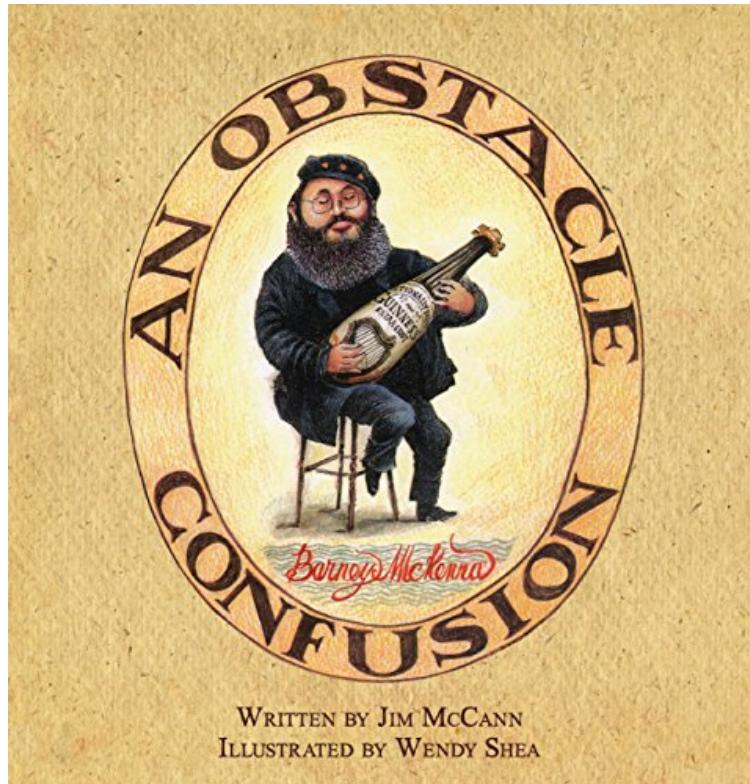


## An Obstacle Confusion: The Wonderful World of Barney McKenna

Jim McCann  
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**Jim McCann : An Obstacle Confusion: The Wonderful World of Barney McKenna** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Obstacle Confusion: The Wonderful World of Barney McKenna:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Obstacle Confusion and Other Verbal Contusions: This Is A Very Funny BookBy Judith ArnoldAnyone who is familiar with The Dubliners knows that the original four were characters, each in their own way. But the biggest character was Banjo Barney McKenna who often resided in what the others called "Barneyland" and he would often seem to the others to have truly gone down the rabbit hole. He had his own way of viewing the world and it created much hilarity over his antics and expressions. Jim McCann, who spent some years as a member of The Dubliners, observed and recorded what the public refers to as "Barneyisms". He narrates the incidences with descriptive flair and understatement. I didn't stop laughing, even if I'd heard about the "Barneyism" before. I won't tell you the source of the title - you deserve the treat and laugh for reading the story yourself. Each story is short so you can read one at a time, or spend a sitting reading the whole book. It is well worth the price. Barney was a fantastic banjo player, but an even more entertaining soul.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The wit and wisdom of Banjo BarneyBy Leslie M. This is a funny and fabulous little book, with terrific illustrations, about the late Barney McKenna of Dubliners fame. He had a unique and amusing take on life, and this charming book by Jim McCann commemorates that quirky outlook.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy slFunny stories about Banjo Barney of the Dubliners. Well written and illustrated

Barney McKenna, 'Banjo Barney from Donnycarneys';, was one of the founder members of the Dubliners. But he was also famous for another reason: he was capable of bringing any conversation to a sudden stop by uttering something so completely unexpected as to reduce everyone present to bemused silence. *An Obstacle Confusion* is a collection of stories about Barney and his 'Barneyisms'. It was compiled by the late Jim McCann, a former member of the Dubliners, and illustrated by Wendy Shea, a long-time friend of Barney. These wonderful flights of fancy are must-reads for Dubliners fans, young and old. \* The Dubliners were travelling through a wine-growing region in southern Germany and had stopped at a scenic restaurant with a wonderful view over the vine-covered hills and valleys. They stood outside, gazing at the breathtaking, sun-dappled panorama, an occasional medieval castle peeking through the mist-shrouded trees, and basked in the beauty of the idyllic scene. Barney eventually broke the reverential silence. "Jaysus," he said, "theres a fair few hangovers growing up there."

**About the Author** Jim McCann was a member of The Dubliners between 1974 to 1979, before he embarked on a successful solo career. He returned to The Dubliners for their 2002 reunion tour, but he had been seriously ill with throat cancer in recent years. *An Obstacle Confusion* is a collection of Jim's memories of things that happened concerning Barney McKenna and his funny 'Doings'; when they were on tour. Jim McCann passed away in March 2015. Wendy Shea, a long-time friend of Barney McKenna and illustrator of *An Obstacle Confusion*, studied at the National College of Art and has worked for *The Sunday Independent*, *Irish Independent*, *Irish Press*, *Sunday Tribune* and *The Irish Times*. Wendy also worked on Richard's *Cork Leg*, which featured The Dubliners and toured widely, being transferred to the Royal Court Theatre in London. Wendy has illustrated for Gordon Snell on various publications and collaborated with Maeve Binchy on *Aches and Pains*.