

IGGY MCGOVERN

The Mathematical Barman

The mathematical barman
lives in a world of his own;
he's calculating the average size
of the bubbles in each pint
or the different combinations of coins
in the right change from a fiver
or the time it takes a drop from the optic
to reach the slatted floor.
But the customers all love him,
and not just because he never
says: "You've had one too many"!
He likes to put it this way:
"There's three types of barman,
them that can count and them that can't."

From *The Eyes of Isaac Newton*, The Dedalus Press, 2017