

Regional Report 2024-2025 United Kingdom

Conferences and Workshops

Cambridge Group for Irish Studies

8 October 2024: Dr Lloyd Meadhbh Houston: The North of Ireland, Modernism, and the Medicalization of Sex.

11 October 2024: Eimear McBride in conversation with Vona Groarke

12 October 2024: Dr Angela Griffith, The Cuala Industries: art, making, identities and legacy.

3 December 2024: Professor Ríona Ní Fhrighil, Writing Wrongs: Human Rights and Modern Poetry in Irish.

4 February 2025: Professor Breandán Mac Suibhne, University of Galway, 'Frogs are Infallible? Brian Friel and His Mother's People'.

25 February 2025: Professor Terence Dooley, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, 'The Irish Land Commission and the Fall of the Irish Country House, 1881-1992'.

11 March: Dr Deborah Hayden, Maynooth University, and Dr Sharon Arbuthnot, University of Cambridge, 'Fertility, childbirth and women's medicine in medieval Ireland'.

Oxford Seminar in Irish History

16 October 2024: Ciaran O'Neill (TCD), Rethinking the Irish Settler Colonial Diaspora.

13 November 2024: Professor Marianne Elliott (Professor emerita, Liverpool), Fixers: Women and Housing Corruption in 1950s Belfast

22 January 2025: Graham Spencer (Emeritus Professor, University of Portsmouth), 'The SDLP and the Northern Ireland Peace Process'.

5 February: Professor Rob Savage (Boston College), 'The Death of an Informer, London 1974'

5 March: Dr Frances Nolan (UCD), 'Law versus Practice: Women and Property Ownership in Early Modern Ireland'.

Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool

2 October 2024: Launch & Networking event: Recovering the Art of Reconciliation online database

21 November 2024: Annual Seamus Heaney Lecture 2024 with Professor Clair Wills and Denise Gough

4 April 2025: The Gates Flew Open, Liverpool Irish Centre. Dr Niall Carson, Joint Patronage Lecturer in Irish Literature, will discuss this trial, Peadar O'Donnell and Ireland at the start of the 1930s. Co-hosted by Conradh Na Gaeilge Learpholl and the Institute of Irish Studies at the Liverpool Irish Centre, includes a talk from Caoimhe Withers (Conradh Na Gaeilge Learpholl) on her journey with the Irish Language.

1 May 2025: 'Greek in the Irish sea the ageless voice': Dylan Thomas and Irish writers, Eleanor Rathbone Theatre. An evening celebrating Welsh poet Dylan Thomas and his links with Ireland with Professor John Goodby from Sheffield Hallam University, who will deliver a talk based on his new Dylan Thomas biography *Critical Lives*.

Liverpool Literary Festival

5 October, Reading by Michael Magee – winner of the 2023 John McGahern Book Prize. Followed by a discussion with Dr Niall Carson, Joint Patronage Lecturer in Modern Irish Literature at the Institute of Irish Studies

6 October, Mother's Day – screening of the BBC drama about the Warrington Bomb, followed by a panel discussion between Colin Parry, Daniel Mays and Nick Leather hosted by Dr Alex Coupe and Dr Pauline Hadaway (now at the Department of English at the University of Liverpool, formerly at the Institute of Irish Studies)

London Irish Studies Seminar

23 January 2025: Professor Claire Connolly (UCC), 'Edgeworth and Empire: the Moral Tales'.

20 February 2025: Professor Caroline Magennis (Salford), "'Messy Theory and Dirty Practice': The Return to the Body in New Writing from the North of Ireland'.

15 May 2025: Dr Ian Stewart (UCL), 'The Particularities of Irish Celticism'.

Queen's University Belfast

25 November 2024: Gordon Gillespie (QUB): The 1974 "Spongers" speech revisited: Harold Wilson, Lady Falkener and David Bowie

2 December 2024: Maire McCafferty (UCD): "The flower of the Gaelic League endeavour"? The Irish language summer college, 1904-1940

9 December 2024: Eithne O'Neill (Paris) Was Séamus O'Neill's autobiographical novel *Tonn Tuile* (1947) ahead of its time?

20 January 2025: Margaret Ward (QUB): 'Rebel Women' (16:30-18:00, online)

27 January 2025: Ida Milne (Carlow College) & Paul Donnelly: 'The Elmes Letters and 1798' (16:30-18:00, online)

17 February 2025: Dr Paddy Hillyard (Queens University Belfast): 'The Stalker Affair and its Legacy'

03 March 2025: Tiffany Thompson (Boston College): 'Belfast Barricades and Burnt Out Homes: Women Navigating Street Violence and Displacement in August 1969'

31 March 2025: Colleen Taylor, 'Tales of seals & shipwrecks: Irish new materialism goes to sea'

7 April 2025: Rob Savage, 'The death of an informer, London, 1974'

Miscellaneous

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October 2024: Caroline Magennis: *Harpy: A Manifesto for Childfree Women* (book launch, readings and Q&A): 4 October, The Sun, London SW4 0JL - hosted by the London Feminist Book Club; 12 October, Cheltenham Literature Festival; 24 October, Manchester Metropolitan University - hosted by the Contemporary Intimacies, Genders, and Sexualities Research Group (CISG)

20 November 2024: Workshop: *After the Terror: Peace, Reconciliation, and the Troubles in Britain*, University of Birmingham Exchange Conference Centre

23 May 2025: *Irish Nurses in the NHS: An Oral History Book Launch and Q&A*, Liverpool Irish Centre