



**Women's History Association of Ireland Annual Conference
(in conjunction with the Irish Centre for the Histories of Labour and Class)**

'Gender and Class in Ireland'

The Moore Institute, National University of Ireland Galway

21-22 April 2017

Organiser contact: sarahanne.buckley@nuigalway.ie

Twitter Hashtag: #WHAI2017



Friday 21st April

10.00-10.45: Registration: Tea/Coffee & pastries.

10.45: Opening of conference - Dr Niall Ó Ciosáin, Discipline of History, NUI Galway.

11.00-12.30

Panel 1: Motherhood, Family and Social Practices

Chair: Lorraine Grimes

Room: G010

- Judy Bolger (Trinity College Dublin), “‘To give suckle’: Nineteenth-century Irish breastfeeding’.
- Chloe Gott (University of Kent), ‘Cleansing Physical and Spiritual Dirt: Women’s Experiences of Working in Magdalene Laundries in Twentieth-Century Ireland’.
- Claudia Kinmonth (Cork Public Museum), “‘Her dairy, her calves & her homespun linen’”: women’s work in the nineteenth-century Irish farm kitchen, an interdisciplinary view’.

Panel 2: The Landed Gentry and Class

Chair: Olivia Martin

Room: G011

- Maeve O' Riordan (University College Cork), ‘The female body as a signifier of class among the Irish landed class 1860-1914’.
- Matthew Molloy (Trinity College Dublin), ‘Vanity, beauty and men’s cosmetics in Ireland 1870-1910’.
- Cathal Smith (NUI Galway), ‘Women of the Big House: Nineteenth-Century Irish Landladies and Antebellum U.S. Southern Plantation Mistresses in Comparative Perspective’.

12.30-13.00

Lunch

13.00-14.00

Keynote Speaker: Professor Marie-Louise Coolahan (NUI Galway)

Title: ‘Early Modern Women and Literature in Transition’.

Room G010, Chair: Dr Bronagh McShane.

14.00-16.00

Panel 3: Female Activism in Northern Ireland and Britain

Chair: Jean Walker

Room: G010

- John Mulqueen (Dublin City University), 'Betty Sinclair (1910-81): A communist trade union official'.
- Sarah Campbell (Newcastle University), "'Fidel Castro in a mini-skirt" or "St Joan of the Barricades"? Versions of Bernadette Devlin and the civil rights movement in Northern Ireland'.
- Dieter Reinisch (European University Institute, Florence), 'The first Provisionals: Republican Women and the IRA/Sinn Féin Split 1967-70'.
- Darragh Gannon, (University College Dublin) 'On the Home Rule Platform: Irish Nationalist Women in Great Britain 1912-1919'.

Panel 4: Irish Women and Migration

Chair: Charlotte McIvor

Room: G011

- Leanne Calvert (Ulster University), "'Old Mother Hubbard": Irish women and crime in North America, 1838-1918'.
- Leanne McCormick (Ulster University), 'Locating Bad Bridget: Irish criminal women in the New York Women's Night Court, 1911-18.'
- Maurice J. Casey (University of Oxford), 'Irish Women Encounter the New Russia: Gender and Irish Travel Narratives of the Soviet Union, 1929-1931'.
- Ciara Breathnach (University of Limerick) and Sarah-Anne Buckley (NUI Galway), 'Rural Irish youths, gender, migration and family income, 1890-1950'.

16.00-16.15: Tea/Coffee

16.15-17.15

Keynote Speaker: Prof. Carolyn Steedman (Emeritus Professor, University of Warwick)

Title: 'Never Married'

Room: G010, Chair: Dr Jennifer Redmond

Followed by wine reception and WHAI prize-giving

20.00-22.00: History Ireland Hedge School, Mechanics Institute, Middle Street, Galway

"'Now you see them...now you don't': women in the national movement post-1916'.

Chair: Tommy Graham

Panel: Dr Mary McAuliffe, Prof Linda Connolly, Dr Conor McNamara and Dr Elaine Sisson.

Saturday 22 April

9.00-9.30: Registration - Tea/Coffee & pastries.

9.30-11.00:

Panel 5: Women and the Revolutionary Period in Ireland 1912-1923

Chair: Fionnuala Walsh

Room: G010

- Tracey Connolly (University College Cork), 'Fighting Alongside her Brothers or a Footnote in History? One Woman's Journey to Nationalism and Social Justice in early Twentieth Century Ireland'.
- Donna Gilligan (Independent Scholar), 'The picture of respectability: viewing the Irish middle-class suffragette in contemporary images and objects'.
- Micheline Sheehy-Skeffington, 'Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington: Feminist, republican, activist and her influence on women today'.

Panel 6: Gender, reading and writing

Chair: Cathal Smith

Room: G011

- Pamela Emerson (Ulster University), 'Reading Women: the participation of women in book reading activities in nineteenth-century Ulster'.
- Declan O'Keeffe (Independent scholar), 'The Young Writers' Saint: Women writers in the *Irish Monthly*, (1873-1898)'.
- Ann Wilson (Cork Institute of Technology), 'Gender, class and identity in Edwardian Ireland: a picture postcard collection'.

11.00-12.00

Keynote Speaker: Dr Caitríona Clear (NUI Galway)

Title: 'Research questions in women's history'

Room: G010, Chair: Dr Leanne McCormick

12.00-13.30

Panel 7: Religion and Philanthropy

Chair: Kevin O'Sullivan

Room: G010

- Gráinne Blair (Independent Scholar), 'Tambourines and Marching Boots, Some aspects of Gender and Class in The Salvation Army in Ireland, 1880-1980'.

- Bernadette O’Connell (NUI Galway), ‘Better “to be Burned at the Stake of Public Opinion than to Die the Living Death of Parasitism”’: Gender, Religion, and Empire in Lady Aberdeen’s Public Humanitarian Crusade’.
- Caoilfhionn Ní Bheacháin and Angus Mitchell (University of Limerick), ‘In pursuit of a new empathy: Vernon Lee and Alice Stopford Green’.

Panel 8: Female Education and Work

Chair: Jamie Canavan

Room: G011

- Emma Lyons (Independent Scholar), ‘To “form the[ir] minds and manners ... so as to render them happy in themselves and useful to society”’: The education of Catholic girls in eighteenth-century Ireland’.
- Mary Hatfield (Trinity College Dublin), ‘Cosmopolitan Girls and Catholic Education in the early Nineteenth Century’.

13.30-14.15

Lunch and AGM in Room G010

14.15-15.15

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Seán Brady (Birkbeck College, University of London)

Title: ‘Masculinities and Sexualities in Northern Ireland’s history’

Room G010, Chair: Dr Rebecca Barr

15:15-16:45

Panel 9: Women’s Activism and Trade Unionism in Twentieth Century Ireland

Chair: Mary McAuliffe

Room: G010

- Elaine Sugrue (University College Cork), “‘Of all classes of workers, women are without a doubt the hardest to organise”’: Obstacles to the trade union organisation of women in early twentieth century Ireland’.
- Gerard Madden (NUI Galway), ‘Women’s activism and Irish Catholic anti-communism during the Cold War: the case of the Irish Housewives’ Association’.
- Deirdre Foley (Dublin City University), “‘Unofficial diplomats”’: the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women, c. 1967-1970’.
- Mary Muldowney (Independent Scholar), “‘They were really strong women as well, because they had to be”’: Irish women workers and the struggle against inequality in the 1970s; the case of the Post Office Workers’ Union’.

Panel 10: Women in the Revolutionary Period in Ireland 1912-23 (1)

Chair: John Cunningham

Room: G011

- Jennifer Redmond (Maynooth University), “‘Nothing less than base desertion’”: Class, migration and masculinity in Revolutionary Ireland’
- Elaine Sisson (IADT), ‘Sisters in Arms: Female Munitions Workers in Ireland 1916-1918’.
- Conor McNamara (NUI Galway), ‘Women in Revolutionary Struggle: the West of Ireland 1913-21’.
- Katelyn Hanna (Maynooth University), ‘The Representation of Rebel Women: Newspapers of the Revolutionary Period’.

16.45-17.45

Keynote Speaker: Dr Lindsey Earner-Byrne

Title: ‘Behind closed doors’: Society, Law and Familial violence in Ireland, 1922-1990’

Room G010, Chair: Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley

Registration Fee for conference:

€25 for members of the WHAI, €30 for non-members, and €20 for students/unwaged

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