**Professor Mary E. Daly**

Professor Mary E Daly is Professor Emeritus in Irish History at University College Dublin and was President of the Royal Irish Academy 2014-2020 – the first woman to hold that position in the RIA’s 230-year history. She is a member of the Taoiseach’s Expert Advisory Group on Commemorations, and of the National Famine Commemoration Committee, a Governor of the National Gallery and a member of the Council of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. Over the course of her distinguished career, Professor Daly has published prolifically. Her works include *Dublin, the Deposed Capital: A Social and Economic History, 1860-1914* (1984); *Women and Work in Ireland* (1997); *The Slow Failure: Population Decline and Independent Ireland, 1920-1973* (2006); and, with Theo Hoppen, *Gladstone: Ireland and Beyond* (2011). She has edited the Royal Irish Academy publications *1916 in 1966: Commemorating the Easter Rising* (2007) and *Roger Casement in Irish and World History* (2005). Professor Daly’s talk, title tbc, will be on Ireland during the 1940s.

**Michael Kennedy**

Dr Michael Kennedy has written and published widely on modern Irish history, in particular on military and diplomatic history and on foreign policy. He has been the executive editor of the Royal Irish Academy's Documents on Irish Foreign Policy series and head of the DIFP series since 1997. He is a former member of the Irish Manuscripts Commission, a Research Associate of the Centre for Contemporary Irish History, Trinity College, Dublin and was formerly an adjunct Professor of History at University College Dublin. Michael appears regularly on television and radio discussing aspects of Irish history ranging from lighthouses to embassies to the history of curry houses in Dublin. His paper to the La Touche Legacy Seminar will be on Nazi war criminals in 1940s Ireland.

**Dr Jennifer Redmond**

Dr. Jennifer Redmond is Assistant Professor/ Lecturer in Twentieth Century Irish History in the Department of History at Maynooth University. Her research interests include migration, women’s history, Irish social history and digital humanities.

Dr. Redmond completed her undergraduate degree at University College Dublin and an M.Phil and PhD at Trinity College Dublin, the latter on the discourses surrounding Irish female migration to Britain during the first decades of Irish independence. This was published by Liverpool University Press in 2018 as *Moving Histories*which was long-listed for the 2020 Michel Déon Prize.

Dr Redmond’s talk on Friday afternoon, 9 September, will deal with Irish women and World War 2, focussing on female emigration with examples taken from Wicklow histories.

**Clodagh Finn**

Clodagh Finn is a journalist and author, whose work appears regularly in the *Irish Examiner* and   the *Irish Independent*. She is the author of a biography of Mary Elmes, *A time to risk all* (2017) and *Through her eyes: a new history of Ireland in 21 women* (2019). Most recently she has been commissioned by Dublin Lord Mayor Alison Gilliland to produce *Her keys to the city*, an account of Dublin-born and based women whose achievements deserve wider recognition.

As this year’s Jim Brennan Memorial Lecture speaker, Clodagh will discuss the recovery of Irish women’s stories, looking among others at Derry educationalist, historian and archaeologist Mabel Colhoun, and at Mary Elmes from Cork, who is credited with saving the lives of at least 200 Jewish children during World War 2.

**Professor Emeritus Michael Laffan**

Michael Laffan studied at Gonzaga College, University College Dublin, Trinity Hall Cambridge and the Institute for European History in Mainz. Having lectured briefly at the University of East Anglia he took up a post in UCD, where he taught for over three decades and served in various positions, including as head of the School of History and Archives, before retiring in 2010. He has lectured widely in Ireland and across the globe. From 2010 to 2012 he was president of the Irish Historical Society; he is now an emeritus professor in UCD. He has published widely on Modern Irish History. His writings include The Partition of Ireland 1911-1925 (1983) and The Resurrection of Ireland: the Sinn Fein Party, 1916-1923 (1999), and he has edited The Burden of German History; 1919-1945 (1988) Michael’s talk at this year’s seminar will be on the Civil War

**Dr David McCullagh**

Dr David McCullagh is an journalist , author and presenter with RTÉ, where he has presented the [*Six One News*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RT%C3%89_News%3A_Six_One)from August 2020. He previously presented  [Prime Tim](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Time_%28Irish_TV_programme%29%22%20%5Co%20%22Prime%20Time%20%28Irish%20TV%20programme%29)*[e](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Time_%28Irish_TV_programme%29%22%20%5Co%20%22Prime%20Time%20%28Irish%20TV%20programme%29)* from 2013 to 2020, and was former Political Correspondent with [RTÉ News and Current Affairs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RT%C3%89_News_and_Current_Affairs).

He began his journalistic career working for the [*Evening Press*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evening_Press). In 2001, He presents *Behind Closed Doors* on [RTÉ One](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RT%C3%89_One) which details released State Documents. He has also presented [*The Week in Politic*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Week_in_Politics)*s*[[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_McCullagh%22%20%5Cl%20%22cite_note-7) and election and referendum programmes on RTÉ

In 1999, he won a prize under the category 'TV features and documentaries' in the ESB national media awards. He has also written the book *A Makeshift Majority: The first inter-party government, 1948-51*, and a biography of [John A. Costello](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_A._Costello). *The Reluctant Taoiseach: A Biography of John A Costello*, was launched in 2010. He also written *DeValera Rise & DeValera Rule*

McCullagh attended [Newpark Comprehensive School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newpark_Comprehensive_School%22%20%5Co%20%22Newpark%20Comprehensive%20School) and studied politics in [University College Dublin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_College_Dublin). He holds a PhD in the subject. David’s talk at the seminar this year will be on the Relationship between Michael Collins and Eamonn DeValera.