

# LAW & THE IDEA OF LIBERTY IN IRELAND

*From Magna Carta to the Present*

Irish Legal History Society Conference  
Friday 25 and Saturday 26 November 2016  
Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin

Academic Directors:

Peter Crooks (Trinity College Dublin)

Thomas Mohr (University College Dublin)

Speakers:

Claire Breay (British Library) • Paul Brand (Oxford) • Ian Campbell (Queens University Belfast) • Coleman Dennehy (UCL/UCD) • Seán Duffy (Trinity) • Adrian Empey (Church of Ireland Historical Society) • Patrick Geoghegan (Trinity) • James Kelly (DCU) • Colum Kenny (DCU) • John Larkin (Attorney General for Northern Ireland) • Bláthna Ruane SC

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**FRIDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2016**

- 10.15 Registration  
10.45 Welcome and opening remarks
- 11.00 Session 1. Chair - Bernard Meehan**  
Medieval History Research Centre, TCD
- Claire Breay 'Celebrating the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta at the British Library in 2015'
- Seán Duffy 'The political background to Magna Carta: King John and Ireland'
- 12.30–1.30 Lunch (attendees to make their own arrangements)**
- 1.30 - 3.00 Session 2. Chair - Maebh Harding,**  
University of Warwick
- Adrian Empey 'Conquest and common law'
- Peter Crooks '1216, 1366 and all that: Magna Carta and exclusionary liberties in late medieval Ireland'
- 3.00 - 3.30 Coffee break sponsored by**

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- 3.30 - 5.00 Session 3. Chair - James McGuire MRIA**
- Ian Campbell 'Magna Carta in Irish political theory, 1541–1660'
- Coleman Dennehy '*Nisi per legale iudicium parium suorum:*  
parliament, politics, and the right to trial by peer
- Colum Kenny 'Myth, Mervyn and the "Irish Magna Carta" of 1662'

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*Friday, 25 November (cont'd.)*

- 5.00                    Tea and Coffee to welcome ILHS members
- 5.30                    Irish Legal History Society Annual General Meeting
- 6.00

**The Irish Legal History Society**

**Winter Discourse and Keynote Conference Address**

**Chair: The Hon. Mr Justice Deeny, President**

**Professor Paul Brand Emeritus Fellow, All Souls Oxford  
*Magna Carta in Ireland, 1215-1320***

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**SATURDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2016**

- 9.30 - 10.45            **ILHS Council Meeting**
- 11.00 - 12.30           **Session 5. Chair: - Kenneth Milne - Chair**  
Christ Church Cathedral Library and Archives Committee
- Jimmy Kelly            'Era of Liberty? The politics of political rights in  
eighteenth-century Ireland'
- Patrick Geoghegan      'Daniel O'Connell, Magna Carta and the idea of  
liberty'
- 12.30 - 1.30            **Lunch (attendees to make their own arrangements)**
- 1.30 - 3.00            **Session 6. Chair: - Sir Anthony Hart**
- Tom Mohr                'Liberty in an Irish Free State, 1922-37'
- Bláthna Ruane          'Magna Carta and modern Irish constitutionalism'
- John Larkin             'Magna Carta and the Irish statute books'

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**CONFERENCE ACADEMIC DIRECTORS**

**Dr Peter Crooks**  
Medieval History Research Centre  
Trinity College Dublin

**Dr Thomas Mohr**  
School of Law  
University College Dublin

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**The Society gratefully acknowledges the support so generously given by the sponsors of this conference and without which it could not have taken place.**

- Christ Church Cathedral Library and Archives Committee
- The Grace Lawless Lee Fund, Trinity College Dublin
- The Medieval History Research Centre, Trinity College Dublin
- The Humanities Institute, University College Dublin.
- Sir Anthony Hart
- The Law Society of Ireland

The Society would also like to thank its publishers Four Courts Press for sponsoring the coffee break on Friday and the publishers whose leaflets are enclosed in the conference pack.



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