



William Carleton Summer School

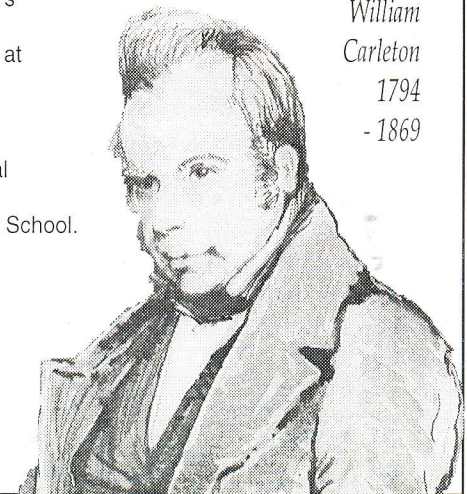
Clogher Valley Rural Centre, Main Street, Clogher. August 5th - 11th 1996

Carleton Chronology

- 1794 Born at Prolusk near Clogher.
c1797 Carleton family moved to Townagh.
1801 Began his schooling with Pat Frayne in 'Towney'.
c1806 Carleton family moved to Nurchossy.
1809 Family moved to Springtown.
c1817 Carleton left for Dublin.
1829 His first work published.
1830 *Traits and Stories*, first series, published.
1839 His first novel, *Fardorougha the Miser*, published.
1844 Much enlarged edition of *Traits and Stories* published.
1846 Revisited Clogher Valley and met Brackenridge of "Brackenridge's Folly" outside Clogher.
1855 1st Edition of *Willy Reilly* published. It later ran to over 30 editions.
1869 Carleton died in Dublin and was buried in Mount Jerome cemetery, Dublin.
1896 Carleton's Autobiography published.
1962 Carleton Society formed in the Clogher Valley.
1964 Plaque unveiled at Springtown.
1970 *Carleton Newsletter* founded in Florida, USA.
1973 Mercier Press published 4 Carleton volumes.
1974 Benedict Kiely's *Poor Scholar* published.

1985-86
Carleton's
grave
repaired at
Mount
Jerome.
1992
Inaugural
Carleton
Summer School.

William
Carleton
1794
- 1869



There is no
 fear, however,
 of Carleton's
 name among
 our people.
 They...will
 not forget
 this one great
 peasant
 writer of
 their country,
 the man who
 remained
 ever a
 peasant, one
 of themselves,
 full of all
 their passion,
 all their
 feelings.
 Quite close to
 me, here in
 London, lives
 an old
 seamstress,
 very poor and
 pious, who
 remembers
 how he used
 to dine in her
 father's cabin
 - a peasant
 among
 peasants.
 W.B. Yeats
 (1890)

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*William Carleton
 Summer School*

Clogher Valley Rural Centre, Main St, Clogher, August 5th - 9th 1996

A century since, a great Irishman said that the man who had not read William Carleton did not know the Irish people. The words are wisdom now as they were a hundred years ago. The approach to Carleton brings us to a period in the past when Irish faults and virtues were more strongly emphasised, more clearly distinguishable. This man saw deeply into the souls of his people, revealed in himself the torture of his time. He saw the sunshine on the valley and heard the birdsong as sun and song must have been in some ancient time.

Benedict Kiely (1948)

Theme for 1996

The Writer and Rural Ireland

One of the recurring issues at the Summer Schools has been the extent to which Carleton influenced later writers.

The question is asked particularly in relation to writers such as Patrick Kavanagh or John McGahern who locate much of their work in rural Irish communities.

Accordingly, the theme for the 1996 Summer School is **The Writer and Rural Ireland.**

The Location

The venue for the Summer School is the Clogher Valley Rural Centre, a large eighteenth century house with full conference facilities, situated in the middle of Clogher village. The surrounding Clogher Valley is itself an attraction, both for its scenic quality and its association with Carleton's work.



Monday 5th August

The novel of rural or peasant life is rooted in and proliferates out of the monumental achievement of William Carleton . . . Faddists and coterie-fuglemen may, from time to time, put forward the momentary name, but Carleton remains the greatest of the Irish novelists . . . It has been declared that Carleton was wordy; so, after all, is *Finnegan's Wake*. I am old-fashioned enough to believe that a great writer's work must be bulky to make room for life.
John Hewitt
(1953)

12.30 Lunch

2.00 Official opening

2.15 Keynote address:

Conor Cruise O'Brien

3.45 Launch of White Row Press edition of *Autobiography of William Carleton*

4.15 Address: *Traits and Stories of the Irish Squirearchy*
Bill Maguire

6.00 Evening Meal

8.00 Poetry Readings:
John Montague and Tom MacIntyre
(in MacSorley's Tavern, Clogher)

CONOR CRUISE O BRIEN

Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien has combined over the years the roles of journalist, historian, essayist, lecturer, educationalist, politician. He has held major academic posts in Ghana and New York and served as a cabinet minister in Dail Eireann. His many full-length publications include *States of Ireland* (1972), *The Great Melody* - a study of Edmund Burke (1992), *Ancestral Voices* (1994) and, most recently, *On the Eve of the Millennium* (1996). He is presently a commentator for *The Irish Independent* and *The Sunday Independent*.

BILL MAGUIRE

Dr W A (Bill) Maguire is a noted social and economic historian. He is Keeper of Local History in the Ulster Museum. Among his publications are *The Downshire Estates in Ireland 1801-1845* (1972), *Caught in Time - The Photographs of Alexander Hogg* (1986) and *Living like a Lord* (1984). His current research is on the history of Ulster photographs.

JOHN MONTAGUE

John Montague's *Collected Poems* was published in 1995, incorporating poems from ten volumes, going back to 1958. Other publications include short stories (*Death of a Chieftain*, 1964 and 1992), critical essays (*The Figure in the Cave*, 1989) and autobiography (*The Lost Notebook*, 1987). John Montague has also held senior academic posts in Ireland, France and the United States.

TOM MacINTYRE

Since the 1960s, Tom MacIntyre has published work in all major genres. His prose works have included volumes of short stories, *Dance the Dance* (1969) and *The Word for Yes* (1992), and the novel, *The Charollais* (1969). Amongst his verse publications are *Fleur de Lit* (1991). As an experimental playwright, Tom MacIntyre has written *Jack be Nimble* (1976), *Doobally Back Way* (1979) and *Rise Up Lovely Sweeney* (1985). In 1983 he also produced a mimetic version of Patrick Kavanagh's *The Great Hunger*.



Tuesday 6th August

In one of his lesser pieces Carleton gives the pronunciation of a word that I myself used in Tarry Flynn and which was the pronunciation I heard my mother use in certain circumstances; and which carried a subtle overtone of comedy. The word was 'cure-ossity'- for curiosity. It is a tiny example but it is by these tiny examples that the genuineness of dialogue and dialect can be tested. It is in such small things that a writer shows his courage...

Carleton's stories abound with such touches.

Patrick Kavanagh (1962)

11.00 Address: Treasures from the General Shipwreck
Diarmuid Ó Doibhlin

1.00 Lunch

2.30 Address: Goldsmith and Allingham
John Montague

6.00 Evening Meal

8.00 Drama: Half a Vegetable
A presentation of the works of Patrick Kavanagh in drama, mime and dance by Noel Monahan (performed by Temenos theatre group)

DIARMUID Ó DOIBHLIN

Dr Diarmuid Ó Doibhlin lectures in Irish Studies at the University of Ulster where he teaches contemporary literature in Irish and modules on literary and cultural history. He has published two collections of poems in the Irish language and has edited the Irish language writings of the late Cardinal Ó Fiaich. His more recent research has focused on the contribution of Protestant/Unionist women of the Glens of Antrim to the Gaelic revival at the turn of the century, in particular Róis Ní Ógain (Rose Young) and Margaret Dobbs. He is well known as a lecturer and is an occasional broadcaster on Radio na Gaeltachta and BBC Radio Ulster. He lives in Magherafelt.

NOEL MONAHAN

Noel Monahan is a teacher living in Cavan. He is associated with *Windows* publications which presents *Poetry Broadsheet* and the literary and arts journal, *W.P. Monthly*. In addition to *Half a Vegetable*, which will be performed at this year's Summer School, Noel has published two volumes of verse: *Opposite Walls* (1991) and *Snowfire* (1995).



Wed 7th August

The car door
slammed. I was
suddenly out

face to face with
an
aggravated man

raving on about
nights spent
listening for

gun butts to
come cracking
on the door,

yeomen on the
rampage, and
his neighbour

among them,
hammering
home the shape
of things.

'Round about
here you
overtook the
women,'

I said, as the
thing came clear.
'Your Lough
Derg Pilgrim

haunts me
every time I
cross this
mountain

as if I am being
followed, or
following.'

Seamus
Heaney (1984)

11.00 Tour of the Carleton Country

Leader:

Jack Johnston

4.00 Address:

Antoinette Quinn

6.00 Evening Meal

8.00 Recital:

The Charles Wood Singers

with

Aubrey McClintock (conductor)

and Nigel McClintock (organ)

in St MacCartan's (Anglican)

Cathedral

JACK JOHNSTON

Jack Johnston was a member of the former Carleton Society (established in 1962) and the first chairman of the William Carleton Summer School. He has written widely on local history and his publications include an illustrated account of the local railway, *In the Days of the Clogher Valley*. Jack has also contributed to the most recent edition of *The Shell Guide to Ireland*.

ANTOINETTE QUINN

Dr Antoinette Quinn is a native of Inniskeen, County Monaghan. Inevitably, she developed an interest in her fellow parishioner, Patrick Kavanagh which resulted in her 1991 study, *Patrick Kavanagh: Born Again Romantic*. Leading critic, Edna Longley, described this as 'the authoritative study for which lovers of Kavanagh's poetry have been waiting'. Dr Quinn also contributed to the study of the works of John Montague by editing, in 1989, a selection of his prose works: *The Figure in the Cave*. Currently, Dr Quinn is senior lecturer in English at Trinity College, Dublin.

THE CHARLES WOOD SINGERS

The Charles Wood Singers is a group formed from members of choirs from different parts of Northern Ireland and England. The conductor, *Aubrey McClintock*, studied music at the University of East Anglia and was choral scholar at Norwich Cathedral. *Nigel McClintock* studied at the Royal College of Music and is at present organist of St. George's Parish Church, Belfast and organ tutor at Methodist College, Belfast.

Sweet, though short,
our hours as a family together.
Driving across dark mountains
To Midnight Mass in Fivemiletown'
Lights coming up in the valleys
as in the days of Carleton.

John Montague (1984)



Thursday 8th August

Although Carleton's achievement is streaked and flawed in many ways, he succeeded, more than any other novelist, in going beyond the depiction of individuals as types of the national character. The pedantry, which often weighs so heavily on his writing, was in part the self-consciousness of a man who wanted to impress his audience with his command of 'educated' English, a language over which he had a very uncertain control.

He knew Irish and, from his preparation for the priesthood, some Latin. The three languages combine together in his work to produce incongruous effects, although Carleton found a way of exploiting these...

Seamus Deane
(1986)

11.00 Address:
Carleton and Violence
Terence Brown

12.30 Poetry Reading:
Paul Muldoon

1.30 Lunch

Clogher Community Festival:
Spoilian Fair

TERENCE BROWN

Terence Brown was brought up in the North of Ireland but has spent most of his adult life in Dublin where he is, at present, Professor of English at Trinity College. Professor Brown has written widely on Irish cultural and literary topics and his publications include a critical biography of Louis MacNeice, *Louis MacNeice: Sceptical Vision* (1975); a survey of northern Irish poets, *Northern Voices: Poets from Ulster* (1975); *Ireland: A Social and Cultural History, 1922-1985* (1985); *Ireland's Literature: Selected Essays* (1988).

PAUL MULDOON

Paul Muldoon comes from Moy, County Tyrone. He has worked as a teacher and broadcaster while striving to establish a unique voice in poetry which combines the familiar and traditional, both in content and language, with linguistic and thematic experimentation. He has published eight volumes of verse and has recently brought out *New Selected Poems, 1968-1994*.



Friday 9th August

Carleton's hope for a better life for the people of Ireland and for himself kept foundering in a mesh of contradictions and unresolvable tensions. He was trapped between ancestral and modern forces, between a sense of Catholic community and Protestant iconoclasm, between imaginative despair and rational optimism. None of the identities he assumed as a writer really worked for very long. He drew strength from, reinforced and was intellectually hampered by an atavistic sense of tradition. Norman Vance (1990)

11.00 Address:

The Recent Birth and Chequered Career of "Rural Ireland"

Desmond Fennell

12.45 Lunch

2.00 Readings:

Colm Toibin

Jude Collins

4.00 Overview: Carleton '96

Owen Dudley Edwards

7.00 Evening Meal

DESMOND FENNEL

Born in Belfast, Desmond Fennell studied at University College and Trinity College Dublin and at Bonn University. In 1900, the National University of Ireland awarded him a D.Litt. He has taught at University College Galway and worked in a number of European countries and in the United States. His publications include *Mainly in Wonder* (1960) on travels in the Far East; *The State of the Nation: Ireland since the 60's* (1983); *Beyond Nationalism: The Struggle against Provinciality in the Modern World* (1985); *A Connacht Journey* (1987); *Whatever You say, Say Nothing. Why Seamus Heaney is No.1* (1991); *Heresy: The Battle of Ideas in Modern Ireland* (1993). Forthcoming this autumn is *Uncertain Dawn. Hisoshima and the Beginning of Post-Western Civilisation*. Dr. Fennell lives in Dublin when he is not abroad.

COLM TOIBIN

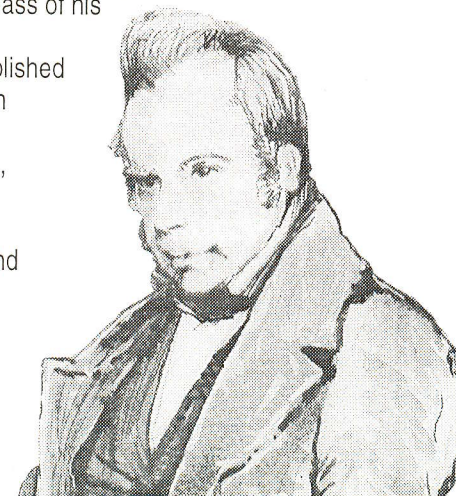
Colm Toibin's first novel was the largely Spanish located, *The South* (1990) which was followed in 1992 by *The Heather Blazing*. His investigations of Ireland led to *Walking Along the Border* (1988) which he republished as *Badlands* and his Spanish travels led to, *Homage to Barcelona* (1989). Following a tour of central Europe, he presented his views of continental Catholicism, especially in relation to Marianism, in *Travels in Catholic Europe* (1994). His latest published work is *The Sign of the Cross* (1995).

JUDE COLLINS

Dr Jude Collins is a senior lecturer in education at the University of Ulster and in 1993 received the Distinguished Teaching Award for his services to education. His journalistic work has included radio and newspaper contributions and his 1995 collection of short stories, *Booing the Bishop*, was an Irish best seller.

OWEN DUDLEY EDWARDS

Owen Dudley Edwards has been a leading contributor to the William Carleton Summer School since its inception and is presently its Honorary Director and programme adviser. A historian who refuses to narrow the compass of his field, he is presently Reader in History at Edinburgh University. He has published on a wide variety of topics which range from enquiries into Celtic nationalism to biographical studies of Macauley, de Valera, Conan Doyle, P.G. Wodehouse and James Connolly. To his other roles of international lecturer and broadcaster, Owen brings the too rare addition of entertainer.



Acknowledgements

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Rural Centre

Northern Ireland Electricity

Northern Bank

Monaghan County Council

The Committee also wishes to acknowledge
that the Summer School poster and
programme cover are reproduced from an
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All information given in the programme was
correct at the time of printing.
Should changes become necessary, the
Committee apologises for any
inconvenience to delegates.

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*William Carleton
Summer School*



