

# Natural & Human Heritages

## *Spring Lunchtime Lecture Series, 2017*



Standing stone - overlooking Inishturk - in the vicinity of Killadoon, Co. Mayo. (Photo: Stefan Bergh)

**Venue: The Studio, Town Hall Theatre, Woodquay, Galway. Time: 1.10 -1.50pm**

Friday  
January 20th **Programme Introduction: Dr. Terry Morley**  
***Climate change, prehistoric farming, soil loss and the development of a karst landscape in western Ireland***

This talk looks at whether prehistoric farming practices 4,000 years ago may be related to karst development on the Burren, and also whether contemporary climatic shifts may have played a role.

**Speaker: Dr. Carleton Jones**

Friday  
January 27th ***Low Carbon Energy Communities in Irish Islands: A Transdisciplinary Approach***  
Island life affects perceptions of energy and energy practices. This research developed understandings of how place and social networks influence energy knowledge through a case study of Inis Oírr.

**Speaker: Eimear Heaslip**

Friday  
February 3rd ***Back from the Stone Age: The place of Céide Fields in Irish prehistory***  
Céide Fields has long been assigned to the Stone Age. This lecture will explain how the age of the field walls has been overestimated by as much as 2,500 years.

**Speaker: Dr. Andrew Whitefield**

Friday  
February 10th ***Fishing for consensus on Ireland's salmon farms***  
Irish salmon farms face environmental and socioeconomic challenges. This research examines stakeholder consensus and conflict to identify how development, innovation, and policy reform for salmon aquaculture might best be pursued.

**Speaker: Dr. Liam M. Carr**

Friday  
February 17th ***Nature and Culture: the symbolisation of a primordial interdependence***  
This paper will examine how past societies negotiated their relationship with nature, and how the interdependence between nature and culture was understood and symbolised in religion, art and ceremony.

**Speaker: Dr. Fiona Gavin**

Friday  
February 24th ***Irish Winter Climates: From storms to frost and back again***  
There is increasing evidence that the rapid warming in the Arctic results in extreme climates at mid-latitudes causing extreme winters, flooding, and summer heat waves in Ireland. This talk examines the evidence, mechanisms, and processes that support this hypothesis.

**Speaker: Dr. Audrey Morley**

Friday  
March 3rd ***Perspectives on vallation: Multi-functionality in the morphology of the Gaelic ráth***  
Concurrent with their protective functions, the earthen banks and ditches of Gaelic settlement enclosures (ringforts) were spaces where expressions of identity and status were presented. This paper examines how some of those spaces may have been presented visually and experientially.

**Speaker: Peter Casby**

Friday  
March 10th ***What on Earth are Novel Ecosystems?***  
Humans have changed or influenced almost every part of the planet, such that the epoch we are now living in will forever be identified as human - the Anthropocene. Novel ecosystems arise from human development and we know very little about them. So, what are they and what do they mean in an increasingly urbanised society?

**Speaker: Dr. Marcus J. Collier**

 **TOWN HALL THEATRE**

For updates see:



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OÉ Gaillimh

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