

# Natural & Human Heritages

## Spring Lunchtime Lecture Series, 2018

Glenaraneen Crannóg, Brittas Ponds, Co. Dublin on a frosty morning. (Photo: Colette Allen)

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

- Monday January 15th **Programme Introduction: Conor Newman**  
**Exploring Irish Pilgrimage, past and present**  
Pilgrimage has witnessed a considerable revival across Europe in recent years. This talk looks at how pilgrimage in Ireland has evolved historically and considers its contemporary role.  
**Speaker: Dr. Richard Scriven**
- Monday January 22nd **Roscommon Abbey**  
This lecture examines the history and architecture of the Dominican Priory in Roscommon, which was founded in 1253 by Felim O'Connor, king of Connacht.  
**Speaker: Dr. Kieran O'Connor**
- Monday January 29th **Square Ringforts: a square peg in a round hole?**  
Ringforts - circular enclosed farmsteads, usually dating 600-900AD? Detailed research is identifying several sub-types that do not adhere strictly to this standard, including straight-walled square or rectangular enclosures.  
**Speaker: Dr. Michelle Comber**
- Monday February 5th **Sustainable Transport for Galway**  
Forthcoming  
**Speaker: Prof. Ulf Strohmayer**
- Monday February 12th **The natural in the cultural, identifying the significance of natural features in prehistoric western Ireland**  
In prehistoric Ireland the role played by natural elements is occasionally conspicuous, but what of the less obvious instances? Can certain ostensibly natural, unaltered features be identified as culturally relevant?  
**Speaker: Dr. Noel McCarthy**
- Monday March 5th **Antarctica's ancient ice and the spectre of rising sea level**  
How will the Antarctic Ice Sheet respond to global warming? Seven seasons of geologic fieldwork, and adventure, in the Transantarctic Mountains provide exciting new insight into Antarctica's past and future.  
**Speaker: Dr. Gordon Bromley**
- Monday March 12th **The 'Royal Site' of Rathcroghan; an enduring paradigm of enclosed sacred space.**  
A pagan world obscured in the glare or eclipsed by the light of Christianity?  
**Speaker: Joe Fenwick**
- Tuesday March 20th **Feminizing the Rural or Reinforcing Inequality? Exploring the role of the LEADER programme in female entrepreneurship**  
The proliferation of female-led enterprises are of paramount importance to the development of our hinterlands, yet limited supports are available to women. This talk will explore the role LEADER plays in assisting rural female entrepreneurs.  
**Speaker: Aoife M. Ní Fhlatharta**

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