



The O'Connell Memorial Church

Photo: Alan Landers



An Scoil 2025

Chuir Dómnall Ó Conaill tús le cultúr nua i bpolaitíocht na hÉireann agus na hEorpa. Duine mór le rá ab ea é sa Bhreatain agus cáil air mar óráidí ag treisiú an liobrálachais. Eiseamlár do lucht polaitíochta ins na Stáit Aontaithe ab ea é maidir lena shliote polaitíochta agus mar a mheall sé an gnáth-phobal chun páirt a ghlacadh i bpolaitíocht na tíre. D'fhág sé rian fé leith ar chás na nIúdach agus cás na mílte a bhí brúite fé smacht ag an sclábhaíocht. Dlíodóir iomráiteach ab ea é agus bhí baint mhór aige le cúrsaí gnó na hÉireann. Déanfaidh an Scoil Samhraidh an méid seo a iniúchadh, a scagadh agus a cheistiú.

For further information, please contact:

Phil O'Neill
Tel: 087 7562772

The School's website is at
www.danieloconnellsummerschool.com

The Daniel O'Connell School acknowledges the encouragement and financial assistance which we receive from our Sponsors including Kerry County Council, the Department of Culture, Communications & Sport, the Office of Public Works, Fáilte Ireland, Walshe's Supervalu of Cahersiveen, and the Glasnevin Cemetery Trust.

For general information on South Kerry and/or accommodation, please refer to discoverireland.ie/kerry

Links to accommodation will be available on the School's website.

You can become a Friend of the Daniel O'Connell School by contributing at www.danieloconnellsummerschool.com/Friend

DANIEL O'CONNELL SCHOOL 2025



Ring of Kerry Hotel, Cahersiveen
Friday, 29th August

Derrynane House, Caherdaniel
Saturday, 30th August

www.danieloconnellsummerschool.com



OPW
Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Comhairle Contae Chiarraí
Kerry County Council



An Roinn Cultúir,
Cumarsáide agus Spóirt
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Preface

The Daniel O'Connell School 2025 will be held over the weekend of Friday/Saturday, 29/30 August 2025 and will mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Daniel O'Connell. On Friday, 29 August, the School will be held at the Ring of Kerry Hotel, Cahersiveen (at the western end of the town). On Saturday, 30 August, it will be held in Derrynane House, Caherdaniel.

Those who intend to attend the School (on either or both days) **must pre-register**. This may be done through our website (www.danieloconnellsummerschool.com) where those registering will be asked to pay an attendance fee of €30 per day or €50 for the two days. The registration fee includes morning coffee/tea. Those who do not have access to on-line may register by calling 087-7562772. Without pre-registry, admission cannot be assured.

Seating in both venues will be on a first-come first-served basis. Preferential seating for the disabled **must be pre-booked**.

For those not attending the School in person, the lectures will be live-streamed from Cahersiveen on Friday, 29 August through the School's website, www.danieloconnellsummerschool.com. Saturday's lectures in Derrynane will be recorded and will be available for viewing from 5 September, again through the School's website. A registration fee of €15 will apply. **For updates on the programme, please refer to the School's website.**

On Friday, 29 August, lunch can be purchased in the Ring of Kerry Hotel, Cahersiveen or in any of the town's restaurants. On Saturday, 30 August, lunch will be provided in Derrynane House. Lunch coupons may be purchased at the registration desk on Saturday morning. **Please pre-purchase** a lunch coupon to avoid delays.

PROGRAMME

Friday, 29 August 2025

Ring of Kerry Hotel, Cahersiveen

9.30 am: Introduction and Welcome

9.40 am: Opening Remarks: **Dr. Linda Doyle**, Provost, Trinity College Dublin. Linda was Professor of Engineering at Trinity and manager of a number of research projects before becoming the 45th Provost in August 2021. The Provost is the University's Chief Officer. She is the first woman to hold the post since the University was founded in 1592.

10.00 am: "Building on O'Connell's Legacies: Reporting and Representing Ireland", chaired by **John O'Donoghue**, former Minister and TD for South Kerry.

Vincent Boland has been a journalist for 35 years. Between 1994 and 2017, he was correspondent for the *Financial Times* in Prague, London, New York, Ankara, Milan and Dublin. He now writes a column in the *Business Post* on international affairs and business.

Daithí Ó Ceallaigh is former Ambassador of Ireland to the UK (2001-07) and one of Ireland's most accomplished diplomats. He was also Director of the Institute of International and European Affairs (Dublin) and Chairperson of the Press Council (2010-16). Daithí will draw on his career as a diplomat and negotiator to address the topic.

Claire Connolly is Professor of Modern English at UCC. She has also held a number of visiting positions in Britain and the USA and is Secretary of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the Royal Irish Academy. She is a distinguished author and critic. In her contribution, Claire will look at how literature reflects the wider societies of which it is part.

11.20 am: Coffee Break

11.50 am: The Daniel O'Connell Award, 2025. Presentation will be moderated by **Joe McGill**, Radio Kerry. The name of the awardee will be announced in mid-August.

12.20 pm: "Daniel O'Connell: Lives and Legacies", chaired by **Brigid Laffan**, Cahersiveen native and Chancellor of the University of Limerick.

Patrick Geoghegan is Professor of History in Trinity College Dublin and Director of its Research Long Room Hub. He is the author of a number of historical works, most notably a two-volume biography of Daniel O'Connell

Mary O'Dowd is Professor Emerita, Queen's University Belfast, and an authority on pre-Union Ireland. Her *History of Women in Ireland, 1500-1800* was published in 2016.

1.30 pm: Lunch Break

2.45 pm: "O'Connell in his Private Worlds", chaired by **Áine Hyland**, former Vice-President of UCC.

Muiris Bric, Professor Emeritus of History at UCD, will talk about "The O'Connells of Iveragh". Muiris is Member and former Vice President of the Royal Irish Academy and has been Director of the Daniel O'Connell Summer School since it was re-established in 2011.

Dr. Erin Bishop has held a number of positions advising Presidential Libraries and US Cities on archival and heritage policy. She will talk about Mary O'Connell, wife of Daniel, the subject of a two-volume biography which was the subject of her PhD from UCD.

4.00 pm: Book Launch of **Sir Adrian FitzGerald's** two volume edition of the *Disillusioned Unionist and Rejected Emancipist*, some of the letters and papers of his ancestor, the 18th Knight of Kerry, under whom Valentia was further developed as a transatlantic hub.

5.15 pm: Con Keating Memorial Park. An Address by **Jarlath Burns**, the National President of the GAA.

Saturday, 30 August 2025 Derrynane House, Caherdaniel

9.30 am: Introduction: **Rosemary Collier**, Assistant Secretary General, OPW.

9.40 am: "Life among Friends - and Foes?": **Mary Lyne, Ballinskelligs**, will chair this session which will be led by **Daniel O'Connell** - the Great, Great, Great Grandson of Daniel O'Connell - who will use of some of his family's Visitors' Books to discuss some of the many visitors, including the curious - who came to Derrynane.

Brian Crowley, Historian to the Office of Public Works, will talk on some of the surviving artefacts relating to O'Connell, while **Sir Adrian FitzGerald**, the 24th Knight of Kerry, will talk on the historical relationships between his family and that of the O'Connells.

11.15 am: Coffee

11.45 am: "Contemporary Life and Living in the Age of O'Connell", as chaired by **Muiris Ó Raoghail**, Castlecove.

Neil Buttimer, retired Senior Lecturer in Irish in UCC, will talk about what Gaelic sources tell us about O'Connell. A graduate of UCC (1977) and Harvard (1983), Neil has a particular interest in how pre-Famine Ireland is reflected in Gaelic literary and manuscript sources.

Máirtín Mac an Iomaire will talk about food and diet in the Ireland of the O'Connells. Máirtín is an award-winning chef, culinary historian and broadcaster and lectures in TU Dublin. He is a regular contributor to the Oxford Symposium on Food and Cookery which brings together some of the world's leading chefs and food writers.

Fiona Brennan is a Theatre Historian and will talk about how O'Connell features in the literature and theatre of Iveragh. A champion of Amateur Drama, she was recently successful in having Ireland's amateur drama tradition added to the national inventory of intangible cultural heritage which gives it formal state recognition for the first time.

1.00: Lunch

2:15pm: The Daniel O'Connell Lecture (2025) will be given by **Micheál Martin, TD, Taoiseach na hÉireann**. The Lecture will be introduced by **Professor Muiris Bric**, Director of the O'Connell School and will be followed by a Reception in the grounds of Derrynane House.