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Women *in* Media 2019

Souvenir Programme



Kilcooly's
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

Ballybunion Tel: 068 27112

www.golfballybunion.com

Women *in* Media

IN ASSOCIATION WITH KILCOOLY'S COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL, BALLYBUNION

tel. 068 27112 email. info@womeninmedia.ie

April 26th - 28th 2019

Friday 26th

Opening **Ceremony**

Joan O'Connor, Women in Media
Maira Murrell, CEO Kerry County Council
Anne O'Leary, CEO Vodafone Ireland
Mary Rose Stafford, Head of School - Business Computing and Humanities at IT Tralee
Dee Keogh, Community Activist

Friday 26th April 7:30 pm

Friday Night Panel

Topic: **Telling Our Stories**. Three best-selling authors share their wit, wisdom & way with words"

Chaired by: **Barbara Scully**, Presenter/Journalist

Panel includes:
Sinead Moriarty, Author
Felicity Hayes-McCoy, Author
Claudia Carroll, Author

Friday 26th April 8 pm €13.50



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Saturday 27th

Women in Media

Topic: **Does Journalism have a Future ?**
Chaired by **Katie Hannon**, RTÉ

Panel includes:
Áine Kerr, Co-Founder and COO of Kinzen
Keelin Shanley, RTÉ
Lise Hand, The Times (Ireland Edition)
Ellen Coyne, Senior Journalist, The Times (Ireland Edition)
Susan Mitchell, Deputy Editor of Sunday Business Post

Saturday 27th April 10.00 am €13.50

Political Symposium

Topic: **How to solve Ireland's housing crisis. What the government needs to do now.**

Chaired by **Mary Dundon**, Head of Journalism at University of Limerick

Panel includes:
Justine McCarthy, The Sunday Times
Fr. Peter McVerry, The Peter McVerry Trust
Damien English T.D., Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal.
Jan O'Sullivan, Labour Party Housing & Local Government spokeswoman

Saturday 27th April 12.00pm €13.50

Women in STEM

Chaired by **Jess Kelly**, Newstalk's Technology Correspondent and host of Tech Talk.

Panel includes :-

Anne O'Leary, CEO Vodafone Ireland.
Dr. Niamh O'Sullivan, Head of Genetics at UCD
Gillian Keating, IWISH Foundation
Harry McCann, CEO Trendster Media

Saturday 27th April 2.00pm €13.50

Women *in* Media

IN ASSOCIATION WITH KILCOOLY'S COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL, BALLYBUNION

April 26th - 28th 2019

Saturday 27th

Gala Dinner

Presentation of the **Mary Cummins Award for Women of Outstanding Achievement in the Media**

Award sponsored by The Cummins Family

Presentation of the **Joan Kennelly Special Media Award**

Presentation of the **Social Media Award**

MC : **Miriam O'Callaghan**, Broadcaster, RTÉ

Saturday 27th April 7:30 pm €70.00

Sunday 28th

Social Media Panel

Topic: **The Future of Social Media.**

Chaired - **Ciara Riordan** Social News Editor (BBC News)

Panel includes :-

Julia Ebner, Research Fellow at the London based Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD)

Dr. Ciarán Mc Mahon, Author of 'The Psychology of Social Media'.

Jane Last, Head of News at Independent News & Media

Aisling Ryan, Exploration Geologist, Social Media Influencer + Twitch Streamer

Sunday 28th April 11.00 am €13.50

Sunday Panel Discussion

Topic: **BREXIT** "The aftermath; a dream transition or a living nightmare" We will explore the operational realities of life in Ireland and beyond in a post Brexit scenario.

Chaired - **Sarah Carey** journalist

Bertie Ahern, Former Taoiseach and leader of Fianna Fáil

Dr. Mary C. Murphy, Lecturer in politics with the Department of Government and Politics, University College Cork

Mairead McGuinness, Vice-President of the European Parliament

Sunday 28th April 12.30 pm €13.50

Closing Address

Sunday 28th April 13.30 pm



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Women in Media Contributors 2019

Opening Ceremony

Moira Murrell A native of Kerry, Moira Murrell was appointed Chief Executive of Kerry County Council in 2014. Prior to this, Moira Murrell served from 2010 to 2014 as Divisional Manager in Cork County Council with responsibility for Roads and Transportation, Water Services, Organisational Development and Economic Development and in the North Cork Division from 2007 to 2010 as a Director of Service for the West Cork Division including Town Manager in Skibbereen and Clonakilty.

Moira Murrell worked with Kerry County Council from 1993 and was responsible for Budgetary Management and the introduction of the new Financial Management system to the Local Government Sector.

During this period she was the assigned European Officer for Kerry County Council and studied in the EU over a three-month period. Moira Murrell completed her primary degree in the University of Limerick and completed her MA in Public Management while in the employment of Kerry County Council in 1996.

Anne O'Leary was appointed CEO of Vodafone Ireland in February 2013, having spent five years as Enterprise Director. She joined Vodafone from BT Ireland where she was Managing Director for six years and was previously Regional Director with Esat Telecom.

As CEO of Vodafone, Anne has committed to investing in Ireland's telecommunications infrastructure, resulting in Vodafone's nationwide rollout of 4G. She is also overseeing SIRO, Vodafone's joint venture with the ESB, who are investing €450m in the roll out of high speed fibre broadband across Ireland.

Additionally, Anne is driving the gigabit society agenda in Ireland- with the explicit goal of access for everyone to 1 gigabit broadband speed. Equality of connectivity will change how everyone in Ireland lives, works and plays.

A Cork native, Anne champions wellbeing and diversity in the workplace and has spearheaded Vodafone securing a position as one of Ireland's top ten Great Places to Work and achieving the Business Working Responsibly mark. Anne is a keen triathlete who competes regularly.

Mary Rose Stafford is the Head of School - Business Computing & Humanities at the Institute of Technology, Tralee and also the Manager of the Irish Academy of Hospitality & Tourism at the Institute. Having graduated with a BSc Management from Trinity College Dublin and a degree in Hotel Management from DIT, Cathal Brugha St. she gained fifteen years national and international hotel management experience, specialising in human resource management, working in New York, London, Dublin and Kerry. Since 2003, she has worked in third level education at the IT, Tralee as Head of Department of Hospitality, Culinary Arts & Tourism and also completed her masters degree in Business. Mary Rose also served a four year term on the board of Fáilte Ireland.

She is the author of two books and numerous academic papers. Mary Rose is passionate about the tourism industry in Ireland - and more importantly, about the people and communities involved in tourism. She lives on Banna Beach, County Kerry with her husband Colin, and has two boys, Luke & Jesse. She is an avid soccer fan and has recently recommenced piano lessons after 35 years!.....just to stay busy!

She currently is a member of the Valentia Transatlantic Cable Foundation Board and the Dingle Workhouse Project Advisory Board.

Dee Keogh Since moving from Dublin to Kerry in 2000, Dee Keogh has been a committed and vocal advocate of local social and equality issues and has played a significant role in the delivery of a number of NEWKD self-improvement initiatives, including the Equality for Women Measure.

As a facilitator of the S.T.E.P.S. personal and professional development course, Dee has successfully delivered self-actualization training to hundreds of participants across Kerry. As a trained addiction counsellor and psychotherapist, Dee also acts as tutor, life-coach and mentor, and offers her considerable expertise as a key member of the TEAM Project community drugs programme.

As a keen and talented writer of polemical drama, social fiction and gender discourse, Dee is currently finalizing a number of film and stage scripts and working on her debut novel, 'Why I Haven't Met Oprah Yet'.



Moira Murrell
Chief Executive of
Kerry County Council



Anne O'Leary
CEO of Vodafone
Ireland



Mary Rose Stafford
Head of School -
Business Computing
and Humanities at IT
Tralee



Dee Keogh
Community Activist

Women in Media Contributors 2019

Telling Our Stories

Three best-selling authors share their wit, wisdom & way with words".

Barbara Scully is a freelance columnist and broadcaster. She is regularly published in the Irish Independent and the Irish Examiner. Barbara also contributes to programmes on both RTE and TV3. Along with Declan Buckley she helps to solve problems on the Moncrieff Show on Newstalk every Monday.

Barbara lives in Dublin with her husband, two of her three daughters, four cats and an elderly deaf dog.

Sinead Moriarty is the author of 14 novels published by Penguin Random House. Her books have been translated into 25 languages. She is also a weekly columnist with the Irish Independent. Sinead and Rick O'Shea head up the Eason's Must Reads book club. She is also on the board of the Arts Council.

Claudia Carroll was born in Dublin, where she still lives and works as an author and actress. She's a Sunday Times top ten-bestselling author in the UK and a number one bestselling author in Ireland, selling more than three quarters of a million copies in paperback alone.

To date, Claudia has published sixteen novels, five of which have been optioned, three for movies and two for TV. She's currently hassling producers for a walk-on role, and is hoping they might even let her keep the costumes for free.

Felicity Hayes-McCoy's writing career spans forty years and began in radio and television. Her fiction is published by Hachette Irl and, in the US, by HarperCollins, and her 'Finfarran' novels appear in translation in six languages. Non-fiction titles include two volumes of memoir, *The House on an Irish Hillside* (Hodder & Stoughton UK), and *A Woven Silence: Memory History and Remembrance* (The Collins Press).

She is a former vice-chair of The Writers' Guild of Great Britain and of The Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society UK, and a former board member of the UK Copyright Licensing Agency

The Transatlantic Book Club, her fifth Finfarran novel, will be published by Hachette on May 2nd 2019.

Women in Media

TITLE :- Does journalism have a future ?

Katie Hannon is Prime Time's Political Correspondent, having previously been Political Correspondent of the Evening Herald and the Irish Examiner and Political Editor of the Irish Mail on Sunday. She is the author of 'The Naked Politician', an account of the reality of life in the trenches of Irish politics, published in 2004. Since joining Prime Time as a reporter in 2004 she has covered a wide variety of issues including major investigations into the waste industry, banking, failures in child protection and vaccine trials in children's homes. She has won the Irish Goods Council Young Journalist of the Year, the John Healy National Print Award as well as the 'Story of the Year' in the 2012 GSK Medical Media Awards.

Keelin Shanley Keelin Shanley is a three time IFTA winner and an anchor on RTE Six One News. She has presented Morning Ireland, News at One and Morning Edition. She worked for many years making investigative documentaries for RTE's Primetime covering subjects including Ireland's cocaine use, sex trafficking and social exclusion. She has also covered foreign news stories for RTE including the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti, gang culture in Honduras and the fate of child soldiers in Liberia and Uganda. Living in Paris from 2000 to 2003 she worked for CNN World Report and Radio France International covering global news.



Barabara Scully
Freelance columnist
and broadcaster



Sinead Moriarty
Author & columnist
with the Irish
Independent



Claudia Carroll
Author



Felicity Hayes-McCoy
Author



Katie Hannon
RTÉ



Keelin Shanley
RTÉ

Women in Media Contributors 2019

Women In Media (continued)...

TITLE :- Does journalism have a future ?

Áine Kerr is the Co-Founder and COO of Kinzen; a new startup venture with Mark Little that is building a personal news service that people control.

Previously, Áine led global journalism partnerships at Facebook in New York City, overseeing a team focused on building products, tools and services for journalists and also working to improve news literacy for news consumers. She was instrumental in helping to create and execute on the Facebook Journalism Project and led the creation of the News Integrity Initiative (NII).

Before joining Facebook in March 2016, she spent five years at Storyful, where she served as head of content and political editor before being appointed managing editor in December 2011 at the time of the company's acquisition by News Corporation. Prior to Storyful, Áine spent over seven years working as a political correspondent and news reporter with The Irish Times, The Irish Independent and The Irish Examiner.

Áine is on the board of the NII, an advisor to the Institute for Future of Media and Journalism (Fujo), as well as being the co-founder of Online News Association (ONA) Ireland. She is a fellow of the Sulzberger Leadership Program in Columbia University and has a Bachelor of Education (B'ED) and a Masters of Journalism (MAJ) with Dublin City University [DCU]. She was recently awarded Woman of the Year in Media 2018 by Irish Tatler Magazine and is currently participating in the Going for Growth program for female entrepreneurs sponsored by Enterprise Ireland and KMPG.

Lise Hand is a columnist with The Times Ireland edition and is a regular contributor on current affairs programmes on radio and tv. She has worked for a variety of national newspapers including The Sunday Tribune, The Sunday Independent, The Sunday Times and The Irish Independent, covering everything from the arts to sport, fashion, features, current affairs and politics. She has made a couple of radio documentaries, and also has been involved in the movie business.

She worked on the Oscar-nominated 'In the Name of the Father' and one of her stories was adapted into a short film in 2016 which was directed by Oscar-winning director Jim Sheridan and stars Oscar-nominee Salma Hayek.

She was the parliamentary sketch writer for the Irish Independent during one of the most dramatic periods in Leinster House, the financial crash of 2008 and the subsequent upheaval. Still a political reporter, she has outlasted five Taoisigh, although she may have met her match with the youngest-ever incumbent, Leo Varadkar.

Ellen Coyne is a senior journalist at the Ireland edition of The Times. She has worked at the paper since it was founded three years ago, and she previously worked for the BBC. She reports on politics, with a particular focus on women's issues and social affairs.

Her work has included breaking the story that stopped the religious ownership of the National Maternity Hospital and an undercover investigation that prompted the regulation of crisis pregnancy agencies for the first time. Recently, her reports on government funded advertising led to Leo Varadkar's strategic communications unit being shut down.

Susan Mitchell is Deputy Editor at The Sunday Business Post. She regularly contributes to current affairs programmes on radio and television. Her work includes in-depth reports on the health service, the pharmaceutical sector and social issues. Susan has won numerous awards for her work (including NewsBrands Ireland national newspaper awards in 2016 and 2018).

A native of Dublin, Mitchell holds a BA from UCD and a postgraduate diploma in business studies from the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School.



Áine Kerr
Co-Founder and
COO of Kinzen



Lise Hand
Columnist with The
Times Ireland edition



Ellen Coyne
Senior Journalist at
The Times (Ireland)



Susan Mitchell
Deputy Editor of the
Sunday Business Post

Women in Media

Contributors 2019

The Political Symposium

Title:- How to solve Ireland's housing crisis: What the government needs to do now.

Mary Dundon is a Senior Lecturer in Journalism and a regular political commentator in print and broadcast journalism. She was appointed the first Senior Lecturer in Journalism at the University of Limerick in 2008. As Head of Journalism, she spearheaded the introduction of the first BA in Journalism and New Media degree programme and the Graduate Diploma/MA in Journalism degree at the University.



Mary Dundon
Senior Lecturer in
Journalism

Justine McCarthy has won more than a dozen journalism awards, including as a columnist, features writer, news reporter, campaigning journalist and as the woman journalist of the year. She is a columnist and political correspondent with The Sunday Times and previously worked for The Sunday Tribune and the Irish Independent, where she was chief features writer and assistant editor. She was the deputy editor of Village magazine when Vincent Browne was the Editor. Justine has contributed to the Washington Post, the Guardian and the Observer.



Justine McCarthy
The Sunday Times

She was an adjunct professor of journalism at the University of Limerick for three years.

Fr. Peter McVerry grew up in Newry, Co. Down and was educated at the Abbey Christian Brothers' Grammar School in Newry and at the Jesuit school at Clongowes Wood College in Co. Kildare.

In 1962, he entered the Jesuit Order and was ordained in 1975. From 1974 to 1980, Peter worked in the Inner City in Dublin and there he came into contact with young people who were sleeping on the streets because of their home situation. He opened a hostel for homeless boys, aged 12-16, in 1979 and this subsequently became his life-time work. He saw through the work of this hostel that when the boys reached 16 and needed to leave, they had few options open to them and most ended up back living on the streets. This realisation led him to set about providing services and accommodation for these older youths.



Fr. Peter McVerry
Peter McVerry Trust

In 1980 Peter moved to Ballymun and by the end of 1983 he had founded the Arrupe Society, a charity to tackle homelessness. This charity, subsequently renamed as the Peter McVerry Trust, has progressed from a three bedroom flat in Ballymun to eleven homeless hostels, over 100 apartments, a residential drug detox centre and two drug stabilisation services. His vision for the charity is to support all those living on the margins and to uphold their rights to full inclusion in society. In 2017 the charity worked with over 4,900 vulnerable youths.

Damien English first entered politics when he was elected to Meath County Council in 1999, for the local electoral area of Navan, where he was the youngest council member. At the 2002 general election, he was elected to the 29th Dáil as a Teachta Dála for the Meath constituency, along with his Fine Gael colleague John Bruton. He was the youngest TD in the 29th Dáil, aged 24 years.



Damien English
Minister of State for
Housing and Urban
Renewal.

In January 2007, English was linked to a statement by fellow Fine Gael TD John Deasy, regarding Deasy's intention to run for the leadership of the party if Enda Kenny failed to bring the party into government following the 2007 general election. English dismissed these claims as being false. He was party deputy spokesperson on Finance with special responsibility for Banking and Credit from October 2010 to March 2011. On 15 July 2014, he was appointed as Minister of State with responsibility for Skills, Research and Innovation at the Departments of Education and Skills and Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. He served as Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal from May 2016 to June 2017. He was appointed Minister of State for Housing and Urban Development in May 2017.

Jan O'Sullivan has been honoured to represent the people of the Limerick City Constituency as a Labour Party T.D. since 1998. During that time she has served as Minister of State for Trade and Development and for Housing and Planning and as Minister for Education and Skills. She is currently Party spokesperson on Housing, Planning and Local Government and on Business, Enterprise and Innovation.



Jan O'Sullivan
Labour Spokesperson
on Housing and
Local Government

As a Labour T.D., Jan is committed to Equality, Solidarity and a Fairer Ireland.

Women in Media Contributors 2019

Women in STEM

Jess Kelly is a Radio and TV Broadcaster. She is Newstalk's Technology Correspondent, hosts Tech Talk on Sunday evenings at 6pm and also joins Pat Kenny every Tuesday on The Pat Kenny Show. Jess also regularly contributes to The Ivan Yates Show also on Newstalk. As Technology Correspondent on a busy national radio station, Kelly takes a hands-on look at all the latest gadgets and devices on the market and explains what you need to know. Having worked at Newstalk for the past ten years, Jess' role has seen her travel across the globe reporting from some of the biggest conferences in the world including; CES in Las Vegas, IFA in Berlin, Mobile World Congress in Barcelona and Samsung Unpacked in New York City. Before moving into the role of Technology Correspondent, she worked in production across many of the station's shows including The Tom Dunne Show, Moncrieff and The Pat Kenny Show. Jess also imparts her technology expertise to television audiences on The Six O'Clock Show on Virgin Media One.

Jess regularly contributes to The Sunday Business Post and has also seen her work published in The Irish Examiner, Tatler and on Independent.ie to name but a few. Jess has a BA in Gaeilge and Geography from University College Dublin. Jess is a supporter of the ISPCC.

Dr. Niamh O'Sullivan is a lecturer and Head of Genetics at University College Dublin. She also heads up a research group investigating motor neuron disease. Her laboratory use the tiny fruit fly to model this disease and their findings are helping us to better understand this devastating condition.

Niamh began her career with a degree in Genetics from Trinity College Dublin before moving to UCD where she undertook a PhD investigating the genetic events that occur during memory formation. She received a Marie Curie Fellowship to study neurodegeneration using the fruit fly at the University of Cambridge. Niamh was awarded a Junior Research Fellowship from Imperial College London to continue her research before being appointed to her academic position in UCD 5 years ago.

Gillian Keating leads Ronan Daly Jermyn's Corporate and Commercial Department and the firm's Technology and Life Sciences Groups.

Gillian is an Adjunct Professor in the College of Business and Law at University College Cork (UCC) and in 2017 received an Alumni Achievement Award from UCC. From 2013 to 2019, Gillian sat on the Governing Body of UCC and chaired the Audit Committee at UCC. Gillian is a past president of Cork Chamber of Commerce. Gillian is a member of the Audit Committee of Cork City Council and a board member of the South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital.

Gillian is a co founder of the highly successful and award winning I WISH (Inspiring Women in Stem) social enterprise. I WISH is an initiative to inspire young women to consider careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) and in this way help address the skills gap in STEM. www.iwish.ie. I Wish is a unique initiative in so far as it is a coalition of enterprise, local government and higher education all working together to deliver change. The scale of the events are also transformational. To date 17,000 female students have attended the I Wish showcase events in Cork and Dublin and I Wish campus weeks.

Harry McCann is a nineteen-year-old award-winning Irish entrepreneur. He started his first business, Kid Tech, in 2014 just after his fifteenth birthday. Over the space of a year, he set out to 'Teach the Next Generation Tech' through short courses which he had designed and created. The support of British Actor, Stephen Fry, and technology giants, Blackberry, allowed him to travel across Ireland to introduce almost one thousand kids to computer coding. In 2015, after early success in the business world, he then went on to found the first Digital Youth Council in the world at just 15-years-old.

His work as an entrepreneur and thought leader has allowed him to become one of the most influential young people in STEM, education, youth affairs and technology. As a result, he has become one of the most sought-after young people speakers and media pundits in the world. After completing full-time second-level education, his focus currently lies in the media world, and my new business, Trendster Media. In his role as CEO, he is leading an exciting young team in an effort revolutionise the media industry.



Jess Kelly
Newstalk's
Technology
Correspondent



Dr. Niamh O'Sullivan
Head of Genetics at
UCD



Gillian Keating
I WISH Foundation



Harry McCann
CEO Trendster Media

Gala Dinner

MC :- **Miriam O'Callaghan** presents RTÉ's flagship current affairs television programme Prime Time. Before joining RTÉ, Miriam worked for ten years in British television, seven of those as a reporter for BBC 2's Newsnight programme. Miriam was born and raised in Dublin. Her father Jerry O'Callaghan, a civil servant, was brought up on a small farm in Co. Kerry and much of Miriam's childhood was spent in Kerry.



Miriam O'Callaghan
RTÉ

Social Media Panel

Title :- **The Future of Social Media**

Ciara Riordan Ciara is based in the BBC News headquarters in London and oversees some of the largest social media accounts in the world. This includes the BBC News Facebook page which has 48 million followers, the biggest breaking news Twitter accounts @BBCBreaking, @BBCNews and @BBCWorld, and the BBC News Instagram account. She manages a global social news team with BBC hubs in Washington DC, Toronto and Singapore.



Ciara Riordan
Social News Editor -
BBC News

Originally from Ireland, the Cork native is an award-winning producer, presenter and reporter. She has presented many BBC News Facebook lives which have had millions of views including her interview with Sir David Attenborough which went viral. She has also reported live from major breaking news stories including the Westminster and Manchester attacks.

Ciara returned to broadcasting where she worked as a journalist on the Daily Show in RTE television with Daithí O'Se and Claire Byrne. Ciara broke several stories on this programme - from her anonymous surveys with catholic priests who admitted to breaking their celibacy pact - to taxi drivers admitting working up to 80 hours a week.



Julia Ebner
Research Fellow at
the ISD, Author &
Journalist

Julia Ebner is a Research Fellow at the London-based Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD), specialising in far-right extremism, reciprocal radicalisation and European terrorism prevention initiatives. She is the author of the bestselling book *The Rage: The Vicious Circle of Islamist and Far-Right Extremism* as well as several peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and policy briefings.

On the basis of her research, Julia advises parliamentary working groups, frontline workers and tech firms, speaks at international conferences and delivers workshops in schools and universities. She regularly writes for the Guardian and the Independent and gives interviews in English, German and French on the BBC, CNN, ZDF, ARD, France24, Al Jazeera, LBC and others. Before joining ISD, Julia worked as a Senior Researcher at the counter-extremism organisation Quilliam, where she led research projects on terrorism prevention for the European Commission and the Kofi Annan Foundation and gave evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee on far-right extremism.



Dr. Ciarán Mc Mahon
Author of 'The
Psychology of Social
Media'

Dr. Ciarán Mc Mahon is an Information Security Consultant and award-winning academic psychologist from Ireland. He holds a B.Sc. in Psychology and a Ph.D. in History and Theory of Psychology, both from University College Dublin. Ciarán is primarily interested in the psychology of technology, from ancient methods of writing to modern social media.

Dr Mc Mahon has authored peer-reviewed publications on the popularity of social media, the cyberpsychology of online organised crime, and the concept of digital wellness. He has been an invited speaker for many audiences, including political conventions, health service committees, information security events, police force workshops, as well as academic conferences. He has also written a number of columns on topics including internet drinking games, online grieving, and trolling behaviour.



Jane Last
Head of News at
Independent News &
Media

Jane Last was appointed Head of News for Independent News and Media in 2015.

Jane has been assistant editor at Ireland's most-read news website, Independent.ie, since 2013. Prior to that she worked in a variety of senior positions at the Herald. A native of Clonshaugh in Dublin, she is a graduate in journalism from the Communications Faculty at DCU.

Aisling Ryan Exploration Geologist Aisling is an internet personality and host of TV and live events within the world of online gaming. As well as attracting a fan base of over 60,000 followers online, she has worked with international games developers to bring their creations to the masses via YouTube and live events around the globe.



Aisling Ryan
Exploration Geologist,
Social Media Influencer &
Twitch Streamer

At present, Aisling is working on documenting her experiences as a professional geologist with the hope of bringing an appreciation for the natural world to a wider audience, as well as hosting multiple live streams every week discussing a range of topics from science to gaming on the live streaming platform, Twitch.

Sunday Panel Discussion

BREXIT "The aftermath; a dream transition or a living nightmare" We will explore the operational realities of life in Ireland and beyond in a post Brexit scenario.

Sarah Carey is a former journalist now working in communications and writes occasionally for The Sunday Times. She presented the award winning Talking Point with Sarah Carey on Newstalk for six years.

Previously she has written for The Irish Times, The Sunday Times and presented current affairs programmes on TV3. She is a regular contributor on RTE radio and television. Sarah has a degree in History from Trinity College, Dublin and a post-graduate Diploma in Business Studies from UCD. Sarah has worked in a number of telecommunications and technology companies in Dublin and California. She lives in Co. Meath with her husband and three children amongst her extended family who are never short of wise advice, which she foolishly ignores.



Sarah Carey
Broadcaster

Dr. Mary C. Murphy holds a Jean Monnet Chair in European Integration and is a lecturer in politics with the Department of Government and Politics, University College Cork.

Mary specialises in the study of the EU and Northern Ireland politics. Her latest monograph "Europe and Northern Ireland's Future: Negotiating Brexit's Unique Case" was published by Agenda Publishing/Columbia University Press in April 2018. This text follows Mary's earlier work Northern Ireland and the European Union: The Dynamics of a Changing Relationship which was published by Manchester University Press in April 2014. Mary was also co-editor of a special issue of Administration in 2014 - 'Reflections on Forty Years of Irish Membership of the EU' - with John O'Brennan (NUIM). In 2015, Mary was awarded a Fulbright-Schuman Fellowship and was based at George Mason University, Virginia. Mary's secondary research interest is in first-time TDs and processes of parliamentary socialisation.



Dr. Mary C. Murphy
Lecturer in Politics
with the Department
of Government &
Politics, UCC

In July 2013, her report At Home in the New House? A Study of First-Time TDs was published by the Hansard Society and launched in Leinster House by the Ceann Comhairle, Seán Barrett TD, and the Chief Whip, Paul Kehoe TD. Mary has also conducted research on MPs in Myanmar/Burma with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). In late 2014, Mary was appointed to the Seanad Reform Working Group by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny.

Bertie Ahern was first elected to the Dáil (Parliament) in 1977 he was Minister for Labour from March 1987 to November 1991 and was appointed Minister for Finance on three separate occasions from November 1991 to December 1994. He has served as Tánaiste (Deputy Prime Minister), Minister for Arts, Culture & the Gaeltacht and Minister for Industry and Commerce at various stages. His first ministerial appointment was as Government Chief Whip and Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach and at the Department for Defense in 1982. Bertie Ahern was a member of Dublin City Council from 1978 to 1988 and had the honor of serving as Lord Mayor of Dublin from 1986 to 1987. In November 1994 he was elected leader of his party Fianna Fáil and served as Leader of the Opposition from then until June 1997. He was first elected Taoiseach (Prime Minister) in June 1997, he was re-elected in June 2002 and again in May 2007.



Bertie Ahern
Former Taoiseach
and Leader of Fianna
Fáil

In 1997 Bertie Ahern received widespread praise for his political skills in ensuring that this administration served its full five-year term and delivered on real political and economic progress for the Irish people. The defining moment of this period and a defining moment in Irish history was the successful negotiation by Bertie Ahern and Tony Blair of the Good Friday Agreement between the British and Irish Governments and the political parties in Northern Ireland in April 1998. He was re-elected Taoiseach (Prime Minister) in June 2002. These years were a period of unprecedented economic growth and social change in Ireland. It was also a period of continuing and intense engagement with the Northern Ireland peace process. On 8th May 2007 those years of work paid a rich dividend when a power sharing Administration was established in Northern Ireland. After nine years of unstinting political commitment this historic event represented the full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement and a great triumph for Mr Ahern, Mr Blair and the leaders of the Northern Ireland parties. On 14 June, 2007, following a general election which saw his party, Fianna Fáil, returned to power Mr Ahern was elected as Taoiseach (Prime Minister) for the third time.

Mairead McGuinness is the first Vice-President of the European Parliament and represents the Midlands-North-West constituency in Ireland.

She was the first female graduate of University College Dublin's Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural economics in 1980. She worked as a researcher on The Late Late Show, as a presenter on RTE's Ear to the Ground and Celebrity Farm, a journalist with the Irish Farmers Journal and editor of the Irish Independent's farming supplement. In 2004 at her first try she was elected to the European Parliament representing Fine Gael and the European People's Party.



Mairead McGuinness
Vice-President of the
European Parliament

As First Vice-President, she oversees relations with national parliaments, in particular with the EU affairs committees of Member State parliaments. She has been an outstanding representative for Ireland, most visible when chairing plenary sessions of the European Parliament. Behind the scenes she is involved in policy formation in key areas like agriculture, heart health and medical devices. Her contributions to Irish and international media on Brexit have been highly informed, firm but responsible. She has advocated the Irish position with diplomacy and dignity. Mairead has a clear vision of the wider European Union project and the challenges it faces across the continent, into the future, and how Brexit affects the whole European agenda - not just Ireland.

Women in Media Awards

About Mary Cummins

Mary Cummins was born in Castletownshend, Co. Cork on the 19th November 1944. Her father was a Garda sergeant and so his job took the family to Knocknagoshel, Co. Kerry and finally to Ballybunion.

After completing her Leaving Cert in St Joseph's Secondary School in Ballybunion, Mary worked briefly in the Civil Service before training as a nurse and qualifying as a midwife in Dublin's Rotunda Hospital.

Mary's ambition was to write and so she pursued freelance journalism until she was hired by The Irish Times in 1970. Part of the first generation of women who broke into the male dominated mainstream of Irish journalism, she wrote news and features in Dublin before going to the paper's London office, where in 1971 she had the world exclusive story of the pregnancy of Bernadette Devlin MP.

Mary returned to Dublin in the late 1970's where again, working with The Irish Times, she held a number of positions before being appointed Women's Affairs Correspondent in 1991, a role she combined with reporting from the Seanad.

In October 1996, Marino published a collection of her About Women columns which they say, since 1993 'has surprised, provoked, and infuriated readers- and stimulated discussion of many aspects of Irish life.

Mary Cummins had no hesitation in taking on church, state, politicians, or any other structures that need to be reformed'.

Mary died of lung cancer on the 15th of November 1999.

Mary Cummins Award for Women of Outstanding Achievement in the Media

The 'Mary Cummins Award for Women of Outstanding Achievement in the Media' is annually awarded as part of the Women in Media conference. Recognising the contributions in enhancing the role Women have played shaping the landscape of the Media industry in Ireland, the Mary Cummins Award is for all concerned an integral part of the Women in Media conference.

Past winners of the prestigious Award include Miriam O' Callaghan, Geraldine Kennedy, Olivia O' Leary, Mary Maher & Dearbhail Mc Donald.

The award was designed by artist Folker Fishman.



Mary Cummins
A true campagner and advocate for women in Irish media



Dearbhail McDonald winner of the 2017 Mary Cummins Award for Women of Outstanding Achievement in the Media. Presented by Miriam O'Callaghan and Joan O'Connor.



Note from The Artist: Folker Fishman

"I worked for 42 years in Glass-refinement, specifically as a glass painter. I have created "The Lady" by a special glass-melting process. Every sculpture is unique and I model it in a heat resistant sand. The mould is a lost form and after heating the glass there is only dust. I form the mould with different tools, like spoons, scraping knives & sometimes my fingers. The heat resistant sand is very fine grained. The mixture is sworn to secrecy by the Inventor. Some people think that it is moon dust. Who knows? Some say that "The Lady" is born out of a sandcorn. Glass is a crystal fluent and the heating unlocks it from rigidity. Careful heating is very important. At 800/900 degrees the glass falls smoothly into the mould. Having been held at this heat for approximately 4/5 hours the finished glass-sculpture needs a long time for the cooling process. This can sometimes take 20 to 30 hours. It is crucial to cool slowly as there cannot be any tension in the glass. The green hue is born from metal-oxides which reflects the inner light so it appears three dimensional. Finally, I put it together on the socket with an ultra-violet adhesive and lamp. Combining the wooden pedestal and its beautiful grain created by Donnchadh O' Connor provides "The Lady" with its finishing touch.!"

Women in Media Awards

Joan Kennelly **Special Merit Award**

By any standards, Joan Kennelly was an extraordinary woman. She had not chosen photojournalism as a career, but jumped aboard the media agency formed by her husband Pdraig in 1953 and became a pioneer in her time.

Joan was driven and unaware of the glass ceilings she was unwittingly punching through in Irish media and for equality for more than forty years.

At twenty six years old, she married Pdraig in 1956 and quickly mastered the ropes of shooting stills and movies for Irish and international media clients. There was also the matter of finding the stories and dealing with the logistics of shipping real film to broadcasters from remote locations.

Joan took this all in her stride and regularly scooped rivals, shooting film and stills while rearing a family of four. Joan is most famous for her scoops during the visit of French President Charles de Gaulle and his wife to Sneem in 1969. While others in the media pack obeyed an instruction that photographs could not be taken, it was too much of a temptation for Joan. Joan slipped a half frame Canonet rangefinder camera from her handbag, framed, focused and rapidly shot off half a dozen frames in the dimly lit church at 1/8th of second exposure before she was removed from the Church by Special Branch detectives. She declined to be interviewed or arrested and made her way back to their Tralee headquarters, auctioning the prized images of the French President. Paris Match magazine was the winner, splashing her scoop across a double page spread.

When Joan and Pdraig decided to jump the barriers and become media owners themselves in 1974, Joan was the business brain that made it happen. She ensured that the fledging Kerry's Eye flourished and still made her mark, reporting, photographing and on page make-up. Their firm stance on the separation of editorial from commercial policy was up front and central with Lord Byron's quote which was carved on the front steps of their building "Without or with offence to friends or foe, I sketch your world exactly as it goes".

Joan died on 30 December 2006, but forty four years later, Kerry's Eye continues to prosper under the guidance of their sons Pdraig Jnr., Brendan and Kerry and editor Gerard Colleran.



Joan Kennelly



Social Media **Award**

The Social Media / Influencer Award is a new category for 2019 and recognises the new online medium and its impact on directing the course of discussion and its influence on a next generation of media consumers, as well as recognising the new wave of influencers / personalities delivering that content.

Whether blogging, vlogging, or reaching their audience on platforms such as instagram, twitter, facebook & tumblr etc. The award aims to recognise established or rising influencers who are using their platform to drive conversation and awareness for their particular cause.



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