



A special issue of *Eighteenth-Century Ireland: Iris an dá chultúr*, entitled *New Perspectives on the Penal Laws*, will be launched at the Society's annual conference which is being held this year in July as part of the Trim Swift Festival. The editors of the special issue are John Bergin, Eoin Magennis, Lesa Ní Mhunghaile and Patrick Walsh.

This new venture by the Society will feature some of the best papers from the special conference held in UCD in September 2009. The issue will present a variety of new perspectives on the penal laws, a subject that continues to attract much public interest and engagement. The articles offer a different range of views, with the perspectives coming largely from contemporary reactions or responses to the penal laws. These responses come from Irish- and English-speaking Catholic bishops, clergy and laity, as well as Irish Anglicans and Presbyterians; and from various parts of the country, including Dublin, Raphoe, Limerick and other parts of Munster. The articles also either use new sources, or offer fresh approaches to sources used before, or show Ireland through the lens of other places.

The content of the special issue are as follows:

1. James Kelly, 'Historiography of the Penal Laws'
2. John Morrill, 'The causes of the penal laws: paradoxes and inevitabilities'
3. Declan Downey, 'Accommodations with the Protestant State and Church: a comparative study of respective Dutch and Irish Catholic experiences'
4. Richard Holmes, 'James Arbuckle: a Whig critic of the Penal Laws'
5. Ian McBride, 'Sylvester Lloyd and the Delvin declaration of 1727'
6. Ciarán Mac Murchaidh, "'My repeated troubles": Dr James Gallagher (bishop of Raphoe 1725-37) and the impact of the Penal Laws'
7. Vincent Morley, 'The Penal Laws in Irish vernacular literature'
8. Eamon O'Flaherty, 'An urban community and the Penal Laws: Limerick 1690-1830'
9. Cormac Begadon, 'The renewal of Catholic religious culture in eighteenth-century Dublin'
10. Tadgh O'Sullivan, 'Between Toleration and Preservation: The Popery Laws and Irish Anglicanism, 1782-1808'

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*The price of the Special Issue is €15.00 / £13.00 / \$20.00 (Copies will be available at the launch at the Trim Swift Festival in July 2011 at this price).*

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