



**Fergus O'Ferrall** holds a doctorate in Irish history and has published widely on topics ranging from Daniel O'Connell to the history of Longford. A former Adelaide Professor of Health Policy at Trinity Collect Dublin and a current Governor of the Irish Times, Dr O'Ferrall has been designated Lay Leader of Conference, 2016-18, by the Methodist Church in Ireland.

**Patricia McCarthy** has a Master's degree in sociology. Patricia has had a long career working with Travellers, with the homeless through the Simon community, and more recently in inner city communities in Dublin and Northern Ireland where she has been involved in grassroots peace-building work, primarily in North Belfast.

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7355/DP/4-16



Metropolitan Arts Centre, Belfast  
25 April 2016

**5.45** Tea/Coffee

**6 pm** Welcome and introduction

Jimmy Kelly, Unite Regional Secretary

**6.05** Opening keynote

**Reflections on the Rising and the Somme: challenging legacies**

Len McCluskey, Unite General Secretary

**6.20** Divided cities, short lives

Context-setting presentation on infant mortality in different areas of Belfast and Dublin during the early 20th century.

Peter Connell, historian and demographer

**6.40** Union cities, working lives

Trade union activity and working conditions in Belfast and Dublin during 1916.

Theresa Moriarty, labour historian

**7.00** Why they went

The motivations which led working class men to enlist to fight in WW1.

Philip Orr, author and historian

**7.20** Contested memories: The Rising and the Somme

Moderated discussion between historian and health policy specialist Fergus O'Ferrall and community activist Patricia McCarthy, examining how the Rising and the Somme are remembered today within different traditions. With audience input.

Fergus O'Ferrall and Patricia McCarthy

**Moderator:**

Jackie Pollock, Deputy Regional Secretary, Unite the Union

**8 pm** A workers' year, a working woman

The legacy of Winifred Carney: trade unionist, feminist, activist

**8.30** Refreshments

## SPEAKERS

**Jimmy Kelly** is Ireland Secretary of Unite the Union. Jimmy spent his early working life in Waterford Crystal where he was elected full-time convenor. He was elected as the first Chair of the General Executive Council of the former TGWU, and played a central role in merger talks between AMICUS and the TGWU to form Unite. Jimmy was appointed AT&GWU Ireland Secretary towards the end of 2007, and was then appointed as the first Ireland Secretary of Unite.

**Len McCluskey** is General Secretary of Britain and Ireland's largest union, Unite the Union. After leaving school, Len worked on the Liverpool Docks where he was a union activist and shop steward. He became an officer of one of Unite's predecessor unions, the TGWU, in Merseyside, and was subsequently elected Secretary of the union's National Workers' group. After holding various positions in the T&G and subsequently Unite, he was elected as General Secretary of Unite in 2011.

**Peter Connell** is a geographer and historian who is currently completing his PhD on the provision of public housing in Irish provincial towns between 1890 and 1945. He is editor of the Meath Archaeological & Historical Society Journal.

**Theresa Moriarty** is a labour historian and former staff member at the Irish Labour History Museum in Dublin. She has published on the history of women's health in Northern Ireland and on women's trade unionism in Ireland.

**Philip Orr** is a freelance writer, researcher and teacher who has written a number of books about the Irish experience of WW1. He was also responsible for creating an exhibition shown at the Down Museum, covering the impact of the Home Rule Crisis, WW1, the Easter Rising and the violence of the post-war years in the local area. Philip is currently chair of Mediation Northern Ireland, which has led the way in pursuing conflict resolution strategies.