Making Europe
Columbanus and his Legacy
2015 conference series

Identity in Early Medieval Europe
Bangor (Co. Down) 22-24 May

Columbanus and His Influence:
Monks & Monasteries of the early
Middle Ages in Europe
Luxeuil-les-Bains (Haute-Saône) 18-20 September

The Heritage of St. Columbanus:
Memory and Cult in the Middle Ages
Bobbio (Emilia Romagna) 21-22 November

columbanus2015.eu
Wednesday, 20 May  

Launch of Series

18:30–20:00  
Reception: National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.  
(sponsored by Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht)

Thursday, 21 May  

In Their Footsteps: Journey to Bangor:

09:30  
Depart from National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

11:00  
Hill of Tara, seat of Loegaire, the last pagan king

13:00  
Lunch Dalgan Park, Co. Meath (Society of Saint Columban and the Irish Missionary Union Institute)

14:30  
Kells, monastery, high crosses, round tower

16:00  
Downpatrick

18:00  
Bangor

Public events: early registration

20:00–21:00  
Columbanus & his world (First Bangor Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Bangor. Light refreshments provided)  
Conor Newman & Mark Stansbury (National University of Ireland, Galway)

Friday, 22 May

09:30–13:00  
Registration (Bangor Abbey, Abbey Street, Bangor)

Session 1  
Public talk: the Archaeology of Columbanus’s Ireland (Bangor Abbey, St. Malachy’s Way)

10:00–10:30  
The political landscape of sixth-century Ireland  
(Patrick Gleeson, National University of Ireland, Galway)

10:30–11:00  
The Church in sixth-century Ireland  
(Mike King, Director, Down County Museum)

11:00–11:30  
Art and design in sixth-century Ireland  
(Conor Newman, School of Geography and Archaeology, National University of Ireland, Galway)

Session 2  
Construction of identity (Council Chamber, Bangor Town Hall)

15:00–15:30  
Keynote Address—The Construction of identity in the age of Columbanus  
(Patrick Geary, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton)

16:00–16:30  
Columbanus, Bobbio and Lombard identity between the sixth and seventh centuries  
(Alessandro Zironi, Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Moderne, Università di Bologna)

break

16:45–17:15  
Columbanus and Jerome  
(Clare Stancliffe, Reader in Ecclesiastical History, Depts History and Theology & Religion, Durham University)
17:15–17:45 Columbanian monasticism — did it exist?
(Albrecht Diem, Dept. of History, Syracuse University)

18:00–18:30 Reception and Launch of Bangor Bell exhibition (North Down Museum)

19:00–20:00 Opening of Conference (Bangor Town Hall & North Down Museum complex)
Professor Jean-Michel Picard, President Making Europe: Columbanus and his Legacy
Alderman Alan Graham, Mayor of Ards and North Down Borough Council

Inaugural Address
Columbanus and his legacy
(Professor Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, School of Humanities, National University of Ireland, Galway)

Reception (Craig Room, Bangor Castle)

Saturday, 23 May

Session 3a Identity and material culture (Bangor Abbey, St. Malachy’s Way)
09:30–10:10 Keynote Address—Identity and material culture: present perspectives on an old problem
(Gisella Cantino Wataghin, Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Università del Piemonte Orientale “Amedeo Avogadro”, Vercelli)
10:10–10:50 Identity and location in early medieval Gaeldom
(Ewan Campbell, School of Humanities, University of Glasgow)

break

11:05–11:45 Script and identity
(Flavia De Rubeis, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università Ca’Foscari, Venezia)

Session 3b Columbanus and History
09:30–10:00 Keynote Address—Columbanus and European identity
(Klaus Oschema, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg)
10:00–10:30 Columbanus identity and the writings of Pelagius
(Ali Bonner, Jesus College, Oxford University)

break

10:45–11:15 Columbanus and Irish identity in Bede’s Historia ecclesiastica
(Sarah McCann, National University of Ireland Galway)
11:15–11:45 Columbanus’ penitential inheritance and the shaping of Christian identity
(Elaine Pereira-Farrell, Department of History and History of Art, Universiteit Utrecht)

Lunch (noon–2 p.m.)

Session 4a Identity and intellectual culture (St Comgall’s Parish Centre, Brunswick Road, Bangor)
14:00–14:30 Keynote Address—Que peut-on dire d’une identité culturelle des régions du continent où Colomban arrive?
(Michel Sot, Lettres et Civilisations, Université Paris-Sorbonne)
14:30–15:00 Easter and identity
(Immo Warntjes, School of History and Anthropology, Queen’s University, Belfast)

break

15:15–15:45 Ratio de cursus
(Dominique Barbet-Massin, Bibliotheque Municipale, Grenoble)
15:45–16:15 Columbanus and the historiography of the Roman Empire
(Damian Bracken, School of History, University College Cork)
16:30–17:30 Closing discussion
Session 4b  Public Talk 2: Excavating Columbanus: archaeological survey and excavations at monasteries associated with Columbanus
(St Comgall’s Parish Centre, Brunswick Road, Bangor)
14:00–14:30 Secular settlement and economy in the sixth century
(Finbar McCormick, School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen’s University, Belfast)
14:30–15:00 Excavations at Bangor Abbey, Bangor, Co. Down
(Eoin Halpin, Archaeological Development Services Ltd., Dublin)
15:00-15:30 Survey and excavations at Cleenish Island, Upper Lough Erne, Co. Fermanagh
(Ros Ó Maoldúin, School of Geography and Archaeology, National University of Ireland, Galway)
break
15:30–16:00 Survey and excavation at Annegray, Haute-Saône
(Sébastien Bully, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique 5594, UMR ARTeHIS)
16:30–17:00 Survey and excavations at Bobbio, Emilia Romagna
(Eleonora Destefanis, Università del Piemonte Orientale, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici)

Reception 19:00–19.30 (St Comgall’s Parish Centre, Brunswick Road, Bangor)
Entertainment 19:30–20:30 (St Comgall’s Parish Centre, Brunswick Road, Bangor)

Conference Dinner

Sunday, 24 May

11:00–15:00 Excursion 1 (Nendrum and Grey Abbey)
13:30 – 15:00 Excursion 2 (Bangor Christian Heritage Trail)
Charge: Free (a donation to the Friends of Columbanus Bangor would be appreciated)