

**Symposium:**

# **Collective action, popular politics and policing in Ireland and Great Britain, 1700-1850**

At the Humanities Institute, University College Dublin

Friday 1 September 2017 (10.00am – 5.00pm)

Chaired by **David Hayton** (Emeritus Professor, Queen's University Belfast)  
and **Ivar McGrath** (Associate Professor, University College Dublin)

Authorities in Ireland and Great Britain expected members of the public to fully participate in enforcing laws, particularly before professional police forces were established in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The people who packed into the narrow streets of towns and cities helped watchmen arrest suspected criminals by responding to the 'hue and cry', and 'mobs' participated in the act of public punishments by insulting convicts standing at the pillory. However, crowds were also mobilised to give voice to popular opinions on important matters and beliefs, pressurize authorities to provide redress to their grievances and enforce their own form of community-styled justice.

Consequently, a complex and often incongruous relationship existed between the forces of order and crowds, and between rulers and the ruled.



*The Porteous Riot* by James Slean,  
1818

## **Speakers:**

**Ewen Cameron** (Sir William Fraser Professor of Scottish History and Palaeography, University of Edinburgh)

**Iain Channing** (Lecturer in Criminology, Plymouth University)

**James Kelly** (Cregan Professor of History, Dublin City University)

**Richard McMahon** (Assistant Professor in Modern History, Trinity College Dublin)

**Ruth Paley** (formerly a section editor at the History of Parliament)

**Martyn Powell** (Professor of Modern Irish History, Aberystwyth University)

**Timothy Watt** (Research Fellow, University College Dublin)

## Symposium schedule - 1st September 2017

9.45-10.00: Registration

10.00-10.05: **Ivar McGrath (UCD), Opening remarks and welcome**

10.05-10.45: **Richard McMahon (TCD), 'Local authority and the rule of law: magistrates in the court of petty sessions in pre-famine Ireland'**

10.45-11.25: **Ruth Paley (HOP), 'Trading justices: myth and reality'**

11.25-11.45: Tea/coffee

11.45-12.25: **James Kelly (DCU), 'The chronology and geography of food protest in Ireland, 1710-1860'**

12.25-13.05: **Timothy Watt (UCD), 'Mapping "riot and rescue": taxation protest and policing in Ireland, c.1715-1765'**

13.05-14.05: Lunch

14.05-14.45: **Iain Channing (Plymouth), 'The state and the mob: legal responses to riot and disorder'**

14.45-15.25: **Ewen Cameron (Edinburgh), 'Policing urban and rural Scotland, 1815-1850'**

15.25-16.05: **Martyn Powell (Aberystwyth), 'The politics of military rioting in late eighteenth-century Dublin'**

16.05-16.25: Break

16.25-16.55: **Panel discussion, chaired by David Hayton (QUB)**

### **Thank you to our sponsors!**

This event is being supported by the Irish Research Council, U.C.D. School of History, and U.C.D. Humanities Institute. It is free of charge, but if you wish to attend please contact Tim at [timothy.watt@ucd.ie](mailto:timothy.watt@ucd.ie).