This joint conference of the Oral History Society and the Oral History Network of Ireland addresses the ethical and legal implications of oral history research. It presents a timely opportunity to explore the many issues raised by challenging projects, such as: What is an acceptable level of risk for interviewees/interviewers in the oral history process? What are the new responsibilities of the oral historian in a digital age? What are the rewards for initiating ‘dangerous’ oral history projects on ‘difficult’ topics, and when do the risks outweigh them?

**CONFERENCE SUB-THemes Include:**

- Methodology: personal safety, dangerous practices, the ethics of interviewing
- Risks and challenges for researchers: copyright, ownership and consent
- Interviewing on the edge: criminals, illegals, war survivors
- Working with victims: adapting process, practice and outputs
- Oral histories of conflict and struggle: community activists, security personnel, ex-combatants
- Oral history in totalitarian and post-totalitarian societies
- Oral histories of disasters and catastrophes
- Oral history’s relationship with official secrecy and security
- Interviewee risk in sharing/telling stories: re-traumatisation, ruptures within families/workplaces/communities
- Justice contexts: prison-based oral history
- Oral history, trauma and abuse: the unspoken
- Illness, death and end-of-life narratives
- Environmental risk and danger: disasters
- Work-based hazards and accidents
- Discord and danger in community history
- Sexuality narratives: discrimination, illness, illegality
- Reuse of archived oral histories on challenging and controversial topics
- Practical strategies for interviewers working in dangerous areas
- Ways of mitigating risk: risk assessment, training, the role of ethics committees
- Responsible collection and archiving practices: including the implications of the Boston College Project
- Teaching dangerous oral histories
- Museums as ‘safe’ spaces for dangerous and challenging oral histories

**KEYNOTE PLENARIES**

- ‘Managing danger in oral history: From the field to the archive and beyond’: **ANNA BRYSON** (Queen’s University Belfast) and **ERIN JESSEE** (University of Glasgow) on collecting oral testimonies in conflict and post-conflict zones
- ‘Fluid memories in a fixed museum: Remember Bhopal Museum, India’: **RAMA LAKSHMI** (Washington Post India correspondent) reflects on acting as Curator of the Remember Bhopal Museum, which commemorates the community trauma and struggle arising from the deadly Union Carbide gas leak in 1984, and the state and corporate apathy that followed

**CONFERENCE BOOKINGS**

- Full conference details, preliminary programme, accommodation options, and online booking form at www.ohs.org.uk/conferences/belfast-2018/
- All enquiries to Dangerous Oral Histories Conference Administrator Polly Owen at polly.owen@ohs.org.uk

**ORGANISING GROUP:** Anna Bryson, Arlene Crampsie, Ida Milne, Sean O’Connell, Rob Perks, Sinead Power-Quinn, Adrian Roche, Mary Stewart
**PROVISIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**NOTE:** Registration and all conference sessions will take place at Riddel Hall, Queen’s University Belfast, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5EE. The conference wine reception and dinner will take place at the Great Hall, Lanyon Building, Queen’s University main campus, University Road, Belfast BT7 1NN.

**THURSDAY 28TH JUNE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.30 – 09.45</td>
<td>Registration including tea/coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.45 – 11.00</td>
<td>Welcome and opening plenary</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 – 11.30</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30 – 13.00</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.00 – 15.30</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.30 – 16.00</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00 – 17.30</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.45 – 18.45</td>
<td>Special Interest Group Meetings / Oral History Network of Ireland AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.00 – 20.00</td>
<td>Conference Wine Reception, Great Hall cloisters and lawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.00 – 22.30</td>
<td>Conference Dinner in the Great Hall with special after-dinner speaker Phil Scraton on Hillsborough – The Truth</td>
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**FRIDAY 29th JUNE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.45 – 09.15</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.15 – 10.15</td>
<td>Plenary – ‘Fluid memories in a fixed museum: Remember Bhopal Museum, India’: Rama Lakshmi, former Washington Post India Correspondent</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.15 – 10.45</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45 – 12.15</td>
<td>Workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15 – 13.15</td>
<td>Dynamic Presentation Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.15 – 14.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.30 – 16.00</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00 – 16.30</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.30 – 18.00</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions 5</td>
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**SATURDAY 30th JUNE**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.00 – 13.30</td>
<td>A programme of tours will be available to conference delegates at a small extra charge including: a walking tour led by Sean O’Connell about the social history of Belfast, taxi tours about The Troubles, and visits to wall murals and peace lines. Limited places available, to be booked at the conference.</td>
</tr>
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**CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKERS**

**RAMA LAKSHMI** was the India correspondent for The Washington Post for 27 years, and won the American Society of News Editors Award in 2005 for her coverage of the tsunami disaster. She is now Editor of Opinion & Social Media at The Print. She worked with the Smithsonian Institution and the Missouri History Museum before setting up the ‘Remember Bhopal Museum’ in 2014 to unearth the truth about the catastrophic gas leak at the Union Carbide Plant in Bhopal in 1984, and give voice to the movement which continues to fight for the rights of the survivors. Successive governments have moved little on making efforts to resuscitate the lives of people suffering from its aftermath.

**ANNA BRYSON** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Law at Queen’s University Belfast (QUB). She has published three books, including (with Séan McConville) The Routledge Guide to Interviewing: Oral History, Social Enquiry and Investigation. Her recent article “Victims, Violence and Voice: Transitional Justice, Oral History and Dealing with the Past” (Hastings International and Comparative Law Review, 2016) explores the ethical dimensions of sensitive field research and the theoretical intersections between law, history and the interview. Since 2014 Anna has been working together with colleagues from QUB, Ulster University and the Committee on the Administration of Justice to develop a Model Bill for the Dealing with the Past elements of the Stormont House Agreement. Her ongoing work on the proposed Oral History Archive was acknowledged in 2016 with the award of a QUB Vice-Chancellor’s Research Impact Prize.

**ERIN JESSEE** holds a doctorate from the Concordia University and is a Research Fellow and Lecturer in History at the University of Glasgow and a Research Associate with the Scottish Oral History Centre. She uses oral historical and ethnographic methods to study transitional communities, particularly post-genocide Rwanda, Uganda and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Her research interests include mass atrocities, nationalised commemoration, symbolic violence, transitional justice, mass grave exhumations, and the ethical and methodological challenges surrounding qualitative fieldwork amid highly politicised research settings. Her book, Negotiating Genocide in Rwanda: The Politics of History was published by Palgrave in 2017.

**CONFERENCE DINNER**

The conference dinner will take place in the spectacular setting of Queen’s University Great Hall, a panelled room hung with the university’s art collection, which is one of the most sought-after venues in Northern Ireland. There will be a three-course meal (bookable in advance in addition to the conference fee) and our special guest speaker will be PHIL SCRATON who is a critical criminologist best-known for his campaigning research into the context and circumstances of the Hillsborough football stadium disaster of 1989. He was a member of the Hillsborough Independent Panel that produced the report that led to the opening of new inquests on the 96 victims of the disaster. A delicate aspect of that whole process involved convincing rank and file police officers to come forward and tell their stories about that day, and of the calamitous policing operation that led to the crushing of so many football supporters. Phil will talk about that difficult process.
For details about travelling to Queen’s University Belfast go to https://www.qub.ac.uk/about/Visit-Us/Traveltotheuniversity/. For those delegates who are spending extra time in Belfast there is a useful guide at http://visitbelfast.com/. Belfast is a small, walkable city, once the home of the Irish linen industry, tobacco production, rope making and the world famous Harland and Wolff shipbuilders, birthplace of the Titanic.

Riddel Hall at 185 Strathmillis Road Belfast is a grade 2 red-brick listed building, set in its own attractive landscaped grounds with ample onsite parking. It has been renovated to retain many of the original features including fireplaces, bannisters and iron work. Riddel Hall was established in 1913 by sisters Eliza (1831–1924) and Isabella Riddel (1836 –1918) as a university hall of residence for women.

Getting to Belfast

You can choose from three airports, sea crossings from Scotland and England and a direct rail link from Dublin. You can also fly direct to Belfast from over twenty European cities and a number of North American locations.

By Air

George Best Belfast City Airport
The airport is situated just three miles from Belfast City Centre. Please check www.belfastcityairport.com for flight information. The Airport Express 600 bus service runs from the airport terminal to the city centre every 20 minutes (05.30 – 22.05) Monday to Friday. Please check www.translink.co.uk for services on Saturdays and Sundays. Taxi fares to the centre are modest.

Belfast International Airport
Belfast International Airport is 30 minutes drive via the M2 Motorway. The Airport Express 300 service operates between the airport and Belfast City Centre every 15 minutes Monday to Friday, every 20 minutes on Saturday and every 30 minutes on Sunday. This service operates 24 hours a day however night services are less frequent. Please check www.translink.co.uk for services during off peak times and weekends. (Airport Transfers T: +44 28 7126 9996 www.airporter.co.uk; Value Cabs T: +44 28 9080 9080 www.valuecabs.co.uk)

Dublin International Airport
Dublin International Airport is 90-120 minutes drive via the M1 motorway. Starting out from Dublin Airport, the M1 motorway is well signposted for Belfast; this is a toll road and there is one toll plaza approximately 31 km from Dublin Airport. Continue on this motorway signposted for Belfast. Just after passing the City of Newry the road becomes a dual carriageway (A1) and motorway regulations fall away. At the Sprucefield roundabout (approximately 137 km from Dublin Airport) the A1 joins the M1 motorway (signposted The North, Belfast). Once within the Greater Belfast area the signs will display as City Centre. At Grosvenor Road Junction (approximately 152 km) leave the motorway and follow signs City Centre onto the B38. Translink also run an hourly express bus service between Dublin Airport/ Dublin City Centre and Belfast – http://www.translink.co.uk/Services/Goldline/Timetables/. The journey takes two hours and buses stop at Glendale Street in Belfast, ten minutes walk from the Queen’s University campus.

By Sea

Belfast is easily accessed by sea with crossings from both Scotland and England. Travel by state of the art superfast ferries with journey times from just 2 hours 15 minutes.

By Rail

Irish Rail operates services from towns and cities across Ireland to Dublin’s Connolly Station, where you can then catch a connecting train to Belfast. The Enterprise train service (provided jointly by Translink and Irish Rail), from Connolly Station to Belfast’s Central Station, runs eight times daily (five times on Sunday) and takes approximately 2 hours 15 minutes. Book in advance at www.irishrail.ie for the best value fares. Your Enterprise ticket includes free onward rail travel from Belfast Central Station to Titanic Quarter Station (train stop for Titanic Belfast visitor attraction) as well as a free Metro Bus services from Belfast Central Station to the city centre.
Bed and breakfast accommodation is available at the University with en-suite bedrooms available at Elms Village, 78 Malone Road, Belfast, BT9 5BW at a cost of £45.00 per person per night. There are limited rooms available so early booking is recommended to secure campus accommodation. Accommodation needs to be booked and paid for directly with Queen’s University using the following link: https://knock.qub.ac.uk/ecommerce/ohs2018/index.php

The following Belfast hotels provide alternative options for accommodation during the conference:

- The Malone Lodge Hotel: https://www.malonelodgingbelfast.com
- The Wellington Park Hotel: https://www.wellingtonparkhotel.com
- Dukes at Queen’s: https://dukesatqueens.com
- IBIS Belfast Queens’ Quarter: https://www.ibisbelfastqueens.com
- Holiday Inn Express: https://www.hiexpressbelfast.com
- Tara Lodge: https://www.taralodge.com
- Crescent Town House Hotel: https://www.crescenttownhouse.com
- Clayton Hotel: https://www.claytonhotelbelfast.com
- Europa Hotel: https://www.hastingshotels.com/europa-belfast
- Jurys Inn: https://www.jurysinns.com/hotels/belfast
- Park Inn Belfast Hotel: https://www.parkinn.co.uk/hotel-belfast
- Malmaison: https://www.malmaison.com/locations/belfast/
- Merchant Hotel: https://www.themerchanthotel.com

Thanks to the support of Queen’s University Belfast School of Law and School of History we are pleased to be able to offer four bursaries for the conference. Each bursary covers the cost of the conference fee and the conference dinner and two will also include overnight accommodation on campus.

Two bursaries will be for post-graduate students and two bursaries for those attending from community groups, and priority will be given to those presenting papers.

To be considered for a bursary please email polly.owen@ohs.org.uk with an outline of your case for support (in no more than 300 words) by Friday 11th May 2018.
BOOKING FORM

(please complete all relevant details – one form per person)

I would like to register to attend the Oral History Society and the Oral History Network of Ireland Annual joint conference, ‘Dangerous Oral Histories: Risks, Responsibilities and Rewards’, at Riddel Hall Queen’s University Belfast on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th June 2018.

Name: ........................................................................................................................................................................

Organisation (if applicable): ........................................................................................................................................................................

Address: ........................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

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Email: .................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................... Telephone: ........................................................................................................................................................................

If you have any special access requirements or mobility issues please give details, or for more information contact
Polly Owen, polly.owen@ohs.org.uk : ........................................................................................................................................................................

Please provide details of any special dietary requirements: ..........................................................................................................................................................

CONFERENCE FEE: Includes all conference sessions, conference abstracts, lunch & daytime refreshments on both days, and a wine reception. It does not include the conference dinner which must be pre-booked separately.

☐ Conference Fee: £ ........................................................................................................................................................................

☐ Conference Dinner: £ ........................................................................................................................................................................

☐ Total Payment: £ ........................................................................................................................................................................

☐ £140.00 Standard Conference Fee

☐ £110.00 Oral History Society or Oral History Network of Ireland Member Fee

☐ £110.00 Concessionary Fee for Pensioners and the Unwaged

☐ £65.00 Self-Funded Students

☐ £31.00 Conference Dinner (3 courses plus tea/coffee) Pre-booking essential

Payment Method:

☐ I enclose total payment of £ ........................................................ Cheques must be made payable to Oral History Society, OR

☐ Please send Pay-By-Link email for £.............................. to pay using a Credit or Debit Card, OR

☐ Please send an Invoice for £ ........................................................ to (if different from above) ...............................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................ Signature: ........................................................................................................................................................................

Please complete this form online or download an editable version from www.ohs.org.uk/conferences/belfast-2018/ and return by Thursday 31st May 2018 to the Conference Administrator: Polly Owen, Oral History Society Conference, The Old Quarry House, Upper Aston, Montgomery, Powys, SY15 6TA or email: polly.owen@ohs.org.uk. The final programme will be available on www.ohs.org.uk and www.oralhistorynetworkireland.ie in mid-June.

1. By joining the Oral History Society and/or Oral History Network of Ireland today, you will benefit from a reduced conference attendance as well as membership. For more information and to join the Oral History Society, please visit http://www.ohs.org.uk/about/join/subscribe/. For more information and to join the Oral History Network of Ireland, please visit http://www.oralhistorynetworkireland.ie/contact/become-a-member/.

2. Please provide evidence of your pension or unwaged status in the form of either a Drivers Licence/Passport or a Pension Credit letter or Award Letter or letter from your Welfare Office.

3. Please note: the self-funded student rate does not apply to individuals with institutional support, to whom the full, or OHS/OHNI, rate applies. A receipt for payment at the concessionary rate will not be provided for the purposes of reimbursement. A copy of your student card or a letter from your university must accompany all student-rate bookings. Our conferences are run on a break-even, ‘not for profit’ basis. OHS and OHNI will split any surplus funds generated to support the continued running of both organisations, and any loss of revenue will also be borne equally by both organisations.