We still have vacancies for Mar, Apr, Jun, Oct (2) & Nov (2)! We can fill them, but hope that quality new info arrives from some of the dozens of people emailed recently. Note the new star attraction below for Feb.

**Jan**

Mathematical physicist 1 **Sheila Power** (later Tinney, 1918-2010) was born 15 January in Galway city, where her father Michael was professor of maths. She was educated at UCD and the University of Edinburgh. She was the first woman graduate of an Irish university to get a doctorate in the mathematical sciences. She was also one of the first three scholars at the then new Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (DIAS), and she taught at UCD for decades.

**Brendan O’Shea** was born 6 January in Listowel, Kerry. He was educated at UCG and at Royal Holloway (and the University of Nebraska). Most of his career was spent at Kevin Street (later DIT), where he developed the school of computing from scratch, with a strong emphasis of mathematics in all the courses, and lectured on numerical analysis and discrete maths.

**Kevin McGerty** was born 9 January in Dublin and was educated at Cambridge and MIT. After stints at IAS Princeton, Chicago and Imperial College, he settled at Oxford. He interests include algebraic groups, quantum groups and the associated geometry and topology of varieties.

**Paul McNicholas** was born 28 January in Dublin and was educated entirely at TCD. His career so far has been spent in Canada, first at the University of Guelph, and now at McMaster. He works in computational statistics, data science and machine learning, especially mixture model-based clustering and classification.

**Colin Turner** (*né* Carroll) was born 20 January in Enniskillen, Fermanagh, and grew up in Bangor, Down. He was educated entirely at QUB. A topologist by training, his career so far has been spent in engineering at Ulster University in Jordanstown.

Mathematics educationexpert **Niamh O’Meara** was born 23 January in Dublin, and was educated entirely at the University of Limerick, where she now works. Her interests are in mathematics teacher education with particular interest in knowledge for mathematics teaching. She co-authored the recent book *Mathematical Modelling for Teachers: A Practical Guide to Applicable Mathematics Education*.

**Feb**

**3 Siobhan O’Shea** (later Vernon, 1932-2002) was born on 24 February in Macroom, Cork, and was educated at UCC, where she taught for over 30 years. Her 1964 PhD in mathematical analysis, awarded for previously published work, is believed to be the first doctorate in pure mathematics earned by a woman in Ireland.

**4 Maeve McCarthy** was born 22 February in Galway city, daughter of UGC’s maths physicist Matt. She was educated at UCD and at Rice University. She teaches at Murray State University in western Kentucky, where her interests include inverse problems and modelling biological systems. She has served as executive director of the Association for Women in Mathematics.

**5 Mary de Lellis** (*née* Margaret Gough, 1882-1983) was born 15 February in Kilmore, Wexford, and emigrated to Texas shortly before her 18th birthday. She adopted a new name upon joining a religious order there, and taught at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio in between accumulating maths degrees. Her PhD in algebra from Catholic University in 1931 makes her the earliest known Irish born and educated woman to get a doctorate in maths.

Statistician 6 **Fiona Boland** was born 5 February in Kilkenny city, and was educated entirely at UCD. After teaching there for a few years she settled at the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, where she lectures on biostats and research methods.

**Vincent Hart** was born 11 February in Hull, Yorkshire, and grew up there and in Cork city. He was educated at UCC and taught there while also pursing research at DIAS, becoming the third Irish person to get a mathematical doctorate in Ireland. The rest of his career was spent at the University of Queensland in Australia.

Theoretical physicist **Dan Dundas** was born 6 February in Toomebridge, Antrim, and was educated entirely at QUB, where he has long taught. His interests include ultra-fast electron and photon driven dynamics in molecular systems and non-conservative current-induced forces in nanoscale devices.

**Mar**

Biostatistician 7 **Marie Reilly** was born 15 March in Multifarnham, Weatmeath. She was educated at first at UCG, taught at Kevin St and elsewhere, and then did her PhD at the University of Washington in Seattle. After spells at UCD and UCC, she settled at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.

**Paul Feehan** was born 31 March in Dublin, and first trained as an engineer at UCD. Switching to maths, he studied at the University Southern California and Columbia, and has long taught at Rutgers. His interests include applications of partial differential equations to smooth four-manifold topology, and applications of partial-integro differential equations to derivative security pricing and risk management.

**Götz Pfeiffer** was born 17 March in Siegen, Germany. He was educated entirely at Aachen, and most of his career has been spent at UCG/NUIG. His interests are in finite groups, representation theory, and computer algebra.

Astrophysicist **Peter Gallagher** was born 20 March in Dublin and was educated at UCD and QUB. He has worked at Goddard, UCD and TCD. He now heads up astronomy and astrophysics at DIAS and serves as director at Dunsink. His interests include understanding the fundamental physics of solar storms and their impacts on Earth.

Mathematical physicist **John Kennedy** (1939-1995) was born 28 March in Belfast. He was educated at UCD and the University of London. Most of his career was spent at UCD. His interests were in high energy (particle) physics and general computational mathematics.

ONE MORE.

**Apr**

Astronomer 8 Annie Maunder (*née* Russell, 1868-1947) was born 14 April in Strabane, Tyrone. In 1889 she was the highest ranked mathematics student at the BA examinations at Girton College, Cambridge, but as a woman was denied a degree. For decades she pursued solar research at Greenwich Royal Observatory, often publishing her findings under her husband's name.

9 Jill Tysse (*née* McCarthy) was born 3 April in Cork city. She was educated at UCC, Oxford, and the University of Virginia. Her career so far has been spent at Hook College in Maryland. Her interests include group theory and algebraic combinatorics and their applications.

**Eoin Long** was born 14 April in Waterford city. He was educated at TCD and Cambridge. He has worked at Oxford, Queen Mary (University of London), and Tel Aviv University. He now teaches at Birmingham, where his interests include extremal and probabilistic combinatorics.

**Michael Power** (1885-1974) was born 2 April in Piltown, Kilkenny, and was educated at UCD. Most of his career was spent at UCG, where (as Michéal de Paor) he co-authored the book *Nótaí ar Mhion-Aireamh* (1959). His daughter Sheila was a mathematical physicist remembered under her married name Tinney.

**Dionysius Lardner**? (first time) JT Lewis (repeat)?

ONE MORE PJ Cregg?? Would be sole WIT rep if we use him….

**May**

**Tadhg Creedon** was born 27 May in Ballinveltig, Carrigrohane, Cork. He was educated entirely at UCC. His career started at UCC and Mary Immaculate College, before settling at CIT. His interests lie in operator theory, ring theory, and derivations.

**John Casey** (1820-1891) was born 12 May in Kilbeheny, Limerick. He was a school teacher who graduated from TCD in middle age, and later became the most accomplished mathematician the Catholic University of Ireland. He was one of the founders of the modern geometry of triangles and circles, and his legacy includes popular books on geometry and a theorem generalising Ptolomy's theorem.

**Leo Creedon** was born 13 May in Ballinveltig, Carrigrohane, Cork. He was educated at UCC and the University of Alberta at Edmonton. Most of his career has been spent at IT Sligo, where his interests include group algebras and their application to error-correcting codes, as well as the mathematical modelling of bovine reproduction.

**Turlough Downes** was born 9 May in Dublin and was educated at TCD and the DIAS. Most of his career has been spent at DCU, where he specialises in analytic and computational approaches to the study of astrophysical fluid simulations.

**Owen O’Shea** was born 21 May in Cobh, Cork, and worked for many years as a civilian employee in the Department of Defense. Recreational mathematics is his greatest passion, and 2020 sees the publication of his third book on the topic. He was one of two longtime Irish correspondents of Martin Gardner, the other being Victor Meally of Dublin.

**Shane Dowdall** was born 17 May in Dublin and was educated at DCU. His career has been spent at Dundalk IT. His interests include differential geometry and artificial intelligence.

**Jun**

**10 Alice Boole** (later Stott, 1860–1940) was born 8 June in Cork, a daughter of George & Mary Boole, and grew up there and in London. Though she never attended university, she was a pioneer in the visualisation of 4-dimensional shapes, published several papers, and coined the term polytope for higher dimensional analogues of polyhedra. She was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Groningen and worked with Donald Coxeter,

Crystallographer 11 **Helen Megaw** (1907-2002) was born 1 June in Dublin, her mother being maths-trained Annie McElderry. She was educated mostly at Cambridge, studying under (and later working alongside Tipperary’s John Bernal). She published papers over a 30-year period, and authored two books. It was her suggestion that led to the influential “from Atoms to Patterns” Festival Pattern Group textile exhibition at the Festival of Britain in 1951.

**12 Susan Lazarus** was born 25 June in Ohio, USA, and was educated at Pomona College, Berkley and UCD. Her career has been spent at DIT where her interests include algebra and number theory. ENOUGH BLURB??

Physicist, mathematician and engineer **William Thomson** (1824-1907, later known as Lord Kelvin) was born 24 June in Belfast, and was educated at Glasgow and Cambridge. He did pioneering work on heat, electricity and thermodynamics, and is also remembered for his engineering insights which led to the first successful transatlantic cable.

**Victor Meally** (1911-1986) was born 26 June in Dublin. He was educated at TCD, and spent his career as an accountant. He maintained correspondence with many notable mathematicians (e.g., Coxeter, Guy, Conway), as well as with science writer Martin Gardner, posing numerous problems in recreational mathematics, chess, and number theory. He also edited the *Encyclopedia of Ireland* (1968).

One more Richard Bullen? Margaret McDonald?

**Jul**

**13 Christian Horn** was born 19 July in Rostock, Germany, and was educated at HU Berlin.She has worked in industry and at the Technical University of Furtwangen. For many years she has taught for maths and stats at IADT Dún Laoghaire, where her current interests include learning mathematics at 3rd level and data analytics in business and psychology.

**Diarmuid Ó Sé** was born 2 July in Limerick city, and grew up in Ardnacrusha, Clare. He was educated at Maynooth and DIAS and has long been at IT Carlow, where he now works in management science. His interests include mathematics education and maths learning support.

**John Kinsella** was born 3 July in Dublin. He was educated entirely at UCD, and his career has been spent at the University of Limerick. His interests are in nonlinear optimization and numerical linear algebra.

**David Wilkins** was born 8 July in Eastbourne, Sussex, and was educated at Cambridge and Durham. His career has been spent at TCD. He is interested in the interactions between differential geometry and operator theory, and in the history of mathematics. In particular, he has done extensive research on the papers of Hamilton.

**Ciarán Mac an Bhaird** was born 9 July in Lough Egish, southwest of Castleblayney, Monaghan. He was educated entirely at Maynooth, where he has spent his career. He authored the book Primality Testing and Gaussian Sums. His interests include maths education, the history of mathematics, and algebraic number theory.

Theoretical physicist **Mark Daly** was born 25 July in Dublin, and was educated at DCU. He has long taught at Athlone IT where his current research is in machine learning specifically applied to computer vision and radio astronomy.

**Aug**

**William Hamilton** (1805-1865) was born 4 August in Dublin, and was educated and spent most of his career at TCD. His extensive legacy includes innovations in algebra, mechanics and optics. He invented quaternions, a non-commutative algebraic system predating matrices.

Mathematical physicist **George Stokes** (1819-1903) was born 13 August in Skreen, Sligo. He was educated and spent his career at Cambridge. His legacy includes work in physical optics and asymptotic expansions, Stokes' theorem in multivariable calculus, and the Navier-Stokes equations in fluid dynamics.

**John Tyndall** (1820-1893) was born 2 August in Leighlinbridge, Carlow. He became the first Irishman with a doctorate in maths, in Marberg, Germany, but he is remembered for key discoveries in diamagnetism, infrared radiation, and the physical properties of air. His name lives on via the Tyndall effect, Tyndallization, and the Tyndall Institute at UCC. Some credit him as a climate science pioneer.

**David Conlon** was born in August in Sligo, and grew up in Lanesbororough, Longford. He was educated at TCD and Cambridge. He taught at Oxford for a decade, and recently moved to Caltech. His interests are in Ramsey theory, extremal graph theory, additive combinatorics, pseudorandomness and random graphs.

**14 Madeeha Khalid** was born 19 August in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, and was educated at UT Austin and the University of Pennsylvania. She was worked at IT Tralee and St Pat’s Drumcondra. Currently she is honorary research fellow at UCD. Her interests are in algebraic geometry, differential geometry and mathematical physics.

**Sebastian Wieczorek** was born 4 August in Chociwel, in northwest Poland, and was educated at the Universities of Poznan and Amsterdam. After several years at Exeter, he moved to UCC, where he now heads up Applied Maths. His interests include nonlinear dynamics and applied bifurcation theory.

**Sep**

Theoretical physicist **15 Ruth Britto** was born in September in Binghamton, New York, and was educated at MIT and Harvard. She has worked at IAS Princeton, Amsterdam, Fermi Lab, CEA (Paris) and in recent years at TCD. Her interests are in fundamental interactions, in particular scattering amplitudes.

**Neil O’Connell** was born 20 September in Cheshire, England, and brought up in Shannon, Clare. He was educated at TCD and Berkeley. His career has included stints in Hewett-Packard, Warwick and UCC, and he now teaches at UCD. He works in probability, in particular random matrices.

**Patrick d’Arcy** (1725-1779) was born 27 September in Kiltulla Castle, Galway, and was educated privately in Paris, following which he had a successful career in the French army. He is remembered for his contributions to dynamics, especially angular momentum.

Astronomer **Carl Murray** was born 25 September in Belfast, and was educated at Queen Mary College, London, where he has spent most of his career. He studies the dynamics of planetary systems, and in particular the rings of Saturn. He co-authored the text *Solar System Dynamics*.

**Robert Adrain** (1775-1843) was born 30 September in Carrickfergus, Antrim, and is believed to have been self taught. Following the 1798 rebellion, he moved to the USA, where he was one of the leading lights of academic mathematics in the early 19th century. He published the method of least squares before Gauss.

**16 Annie McElderry** (later Megaw, 1874-1968) was born 4 September in Ballymoney, Antrim, and was educated to masters level at Victoria College and Queen’s, Belfast. She was principal of Rutland School in Dublin. Her daughter Helen Megaw became a distinguished crystallographer.

**Oct**

Theorical physicist **Peter Taylor** was born 29 October in Bray, Wicklow. He was educated at UCD and Cambridge (and UCD again). He has held posts at TCD and Cornell and is now based at DCU. His interests are mainly in classical and quantum aspects of black holes.

**Martin Bridgeman** was born 26 October in Dublin. He was educated at TCD and Princeton and has spent most of his career so far at Boston College. He works in hyperbolic geometry and low-dimensional topology. He founded and for many years ran the annual William Rowan Hamilton Geometry and Topology Workshop at TCD.

# Graham Ellis was born 10 October in Chirk, south of Wrexham, Wales, and grew up in nearby Whitehurst. He was educated entirely at Bangor, and most of his career has been spent at UCG/NUIG. His current interests are in algorithmic aspects of algebraic topology and how it relates to low dimensional topology and group theory, and he recently published the book *An Invitation to Computational Homotopy*.

Theoretical physicist **Alfred O'Rahilly** (1884-1969) was born 1 October in Listowel, Kerry, and was educated at UCD and the Pontifical Gregorian University. He served on the staff at UCC for 40 years, including stints as registrar and president. He authored the book *Electromagnetics* (1938).

TWO MORE McMullan? Walton again?

**Nov**

Mathematician and logician **George Boole** (1815-1864) was born 2 November in Lincoln. Despite being largely self taught, in 1849 he secured a job as professor of mathematics at Queen’s College, Cork. His legacy includes Boolean algebra, which laid the foundations of the information age. His daughter Alice also made contributions to mathematics.

**James Thomson** (1786-1849) was born 13 November in Annaghdown, near Ballynahinch, Down. He was educated at the University of Glasgow and was professor there following two decades at the Belfast Academical Institution. His son William (later known as Lord Kelvin) grew up in Belfast and Glasgow and gained fame as a brilliant scientist, mathematician, and engineer.

**Stanley Lyon** (1882-1975) was born 16 November in Dublin and grew up there and in Louth. He was educated at NUI?? and spend his whole career in the civil service. He was director of the Central Statistics Office (1931-1947).

**17 Aisling Twohill** was born 19 November in Carlow town, and was educated at St Pat's Drumcondra and DCU. Her career has seen her work in the actuarial field, in primary teaching, and more recently at SPD/DCU, where she is interested in algebraic thinking in mathematics education.

ONE MORE?

ONE MORE?

**Dec**

**18 Nina Snigireva** was born in December in Moscow, and grew up in Galway city. She was educated at NUIG and the University of St Andrews. After some overseas postdocs, she has taught at NUIG and UCD. She works in fractal geometry and functional analysis.

Statistician **19 Claire Gormley** was born 30 December in Desertmartin, Derry, near Magherafelt. She was educated at TCD and has spent her career so far at UCD. She works on statistical methods for the analysis of high dimensional data, often of mixed type.

**20 Sonia Balagopalan** was born 25 December in Kuwait and grew up in Thrissur, Kerela, India. She was educated at the Indian Statistical Institute in Bangalore and at Maynooth. She did a postdoc at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and since then has taught at Maynooth and DCU. Her interests are in combinatorics, geometry and finite groups.

**Tom Sherry** was born 25 December in Dublin, and was educated at UCD and DIAS. Most of his career was spent at UCG/NUIG where he also served as dean before retiring a few years ago. His interests are in quantum field theory, renormalization of QFT models, renormalization scheme dependence effects and phenomenology, and supersymmetry.

**Peter McPolin** was born 1 December in Ardbrin, Down. He was educated entirely at QUB and his career has been spent at St Mary’s University College in Belfast. His interests are in …?

Mechanical engineer **Chris Brennen** was born 3 December in Belfast. He was educated entirely at Oxford, and has spent over 4 decades at Caltech. His books include volumes on cavitation and bubble dynamics, the hydrodynamics of pumps, and the fundamentals of multiphase flow.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SETTING UP OF RTCs. So far 6 of them will be represented in the calendar.

* **MARK DALY Athlone Institute of Technology**
* **DIARMUID O’SE Institute of Technology, Carlow**
* **TADHG CREEDON Cork Institute of Technology**
* **CHRISTINE HORN Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology**
* **SHANE DOWDALL Dundalk Institute of Technology**
* **ASKED MICHEL FITZGERALD Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology**
* **ASKED MARK LEENEY Letterkenny Institute of Technology**
* **ASKED OLIVER HYDE Limerick Institute of Technology**
* **LEO CREEDON Institute of Technology, Sligo**
* **ASKED SHEEHY Institute of Technology, Tralee**
* **ASKED 8 PEOPLE Waterford Institute of Technology** PJ CREGG??