

IASIL-JAPAN Newsletter

2002-2

International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures

July 2002

1. Plan for IASIL-JAPAN 2002 Conference

Please find the programme and other leaflets of the 2002 IASIL-JAPAN Conference. The 19th IASIL-Japan Conference will be held at Hiroshima City University on Saturday, 19 and Sunday, 20 October 2002.

• Hiroshima City University(3-4-1, Ozuka-higashi, Asaminami-ku, Hiroshima, 731-3194. tel: 082-830-1500, fax: 082-830-1656)

We are honoured to have two guest speakers: Mathew Sweeney, an Irish Poet from London, and Glenn Patterson, a novelist from Belfast. During the Conference eight papers will be presented, two symposia will be organized.

To conform your attendance, please send the enclosed postcard to the IASIL-JAPAN Office by October 5.

• Important Notice •

Matthew Sweeney will hold a poetry workshop. The office is recruiting people who will join the workshop. Those who are willing to participate in the workshop, please send poems to the office by September 20.

~~The Office would like to express sincere gratitude to President Reiji Fujimoto and Professor Hiroko Ikeda of Hiroshima City University for their constant cooperation in the planning of holding our conference at their university.~~

2. Journal of Irish Studies

- 1) Prof. John Oliphant of Rossie will be on the Editorial Board.
- 2) Prof. Peter O'Connor will create a web site for JIS, which will include the information of IASIL-JAPAN.
- 3) The deadline for submitting papers will be December 14. The address the papers should be sent will change from Prof. Peter McMillan's residence to his office at Kyorin University.

★Letter from the Editor★

Journal of Irish Studies: theme for the 2003 issue

The 2003 issue of the *Journal* will focus on the theme of contemporary Irish poetry, with an emphasis on younger poets - that is, the generation now in their 40s or younger. Over the summer, the Editor of the *Journal*, Peter McMillan, will be in Ireland talking to poets and collecting poetry for next year's issue. He will also be hoping for academic papers with a similar focus - either surveys of Irish poetry since the 1970s offering a broad view of the field and trying to define new directions, or papers on individual poets or on poets working out of similar backgrounds or locality, preoccupations or sets of difficulty. Needless to say, by Irish poetry, we mean poetry coming out of the islands of Ireland.

Peter McMillan and other members of the editorial committee of the *Journal of Irish Studies* will be at the October conference in Hiroshima and will welcome the opportunity there to look over early submissions of papers for the 2003 issue.

Important: if you are thinking of submitting an article, please note that the deadline for the 2003 Journal will be December 14th 2002. This deadline will be strictly observed.

3. The 2002 Membership Fee

The postal transfer sheet is enclosed. Please do not fail to send the 2002 membership fee!

Regular membership—8,000 yen

Married couples—12,000yen

Student membership—5000 yen. (Students who would like to receive IUR have to pay 8,000 yen.)

For those who use the bank rather than the post office, please use the following bank:

Name of the Bank: UFJ Bank, Branch: Shogoin

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店番 445

銀行名 UFJ 銀行 聖護院支店

⌘Please forgive us if our communication crossed on the way.⌘

4. Election of the New Committee

Secretary Akiko Manabe, Prof. Furomoto, Prof. Tanigawa and Prof. Reiko Taniue counted the votes in May.

As a result the following members have been elected at the committee meeting in June:

David Burleigh, Kazuhiro Doki, Andrew Fitzsimons, Reiji Fujimoto, Taketoshi Furomoto, George Hughes, Hiroko Ikeda, Chizuko Inoue, Akiko Manabe, Junko Matoba, Richard Kelly, Seishi Matsuda, Ken'ichi Matsumura, Peter McMillan, Hiroko Mikami, Masami Nakao, Peter O'Connor, Mitsuko Ohno, Minako Okamuro, Tetsuro Sano, Yoko Sato, Shigeo Shimizu, Fuyuji Tanigawa, Nobuaki Tochigi, Masazumi Toraiwa, Naoko Toraiwa and Hiroyuki Yamasaki.

Ken'ichi Matsumura has been elected new President.

New committee and President will be approved at the AGM in October.

~~~~~**Obituary**~~~~~

Professor Yasunari Takahashi, a long serving member of IASIL Japan, died aged seventy on June 24, 2002. He was a member of the executive committee of our society from 1984 to 1993. I personally recall the festive atmosphere of the inaugural conference of IASIL Japan held at Waseda University in 1984, when Professor Takahashi gave an impressive talk on Brian Friel's *Translations* in the symposium "On Irish Drama", chaired by Ann Saddlemeier.

Since the publication of *Poetry of Ecstasy* (1966), Takahashi had engaged deeply with an astonishing range of literature, from Lewis Carol to Shakespeare, the Noh and kyogen, and especially Samuel Beckett. In his *Guardian* obituary (July 16) John Casey of Caius, Cambridge, vividly surveyed the more memorable aspects of this brilliant scholar's life.

Yasunari Takahashi was Professor of English at Tokyo University (1976-92), before joining Showa Women's University (1992-2002). He is survived by his wife, and their son and daughter.

Ken'ichi Matsumura

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Looking forward to Seeing you in Hiroshima!

Have a Great Summer!

IASIL-JAPAN OFFICE

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