Sociolinguistics in Ireland

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Sociolinguistics in Ireland

Edited by

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SOCIOLINGUISTICS IN IRELAND

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Preface and Acknowledgements

The present volume gathers together a range of contributions by established scholars with the theme of language and society in Ireland, both in its history and the present day, as their central focus. There are many reasons why a book on sociolinguistics in Ireland is topical but the common thread throughout this volume is how the relationship of a society to the languages spoken by its members evolved, how it has been and is redefined afresh in successive generations. In today's Ireland this is true, as it was in the past, but perhaps now even more so, given the large number of people at present living in the country but born outside Ireland. This adds a further dimension to the interface of language and society which previously was solely determined by the relative positions of Irish and English to each other, the latter in many different varieties.

Contemporary Irish society has reacted to the languages it contains: linguistic issues are present in the media, and academic interest in these has burgeoned over the past few decades. In public the question of how modern Irish people view and engage with their heritage language, Irish, is a recurring topic. The attempts to adapt the Irish language to suit the world of the twenty-first century and the programmes to improve knowledge and use of the language in today's Ireland are matters which are keenly debated. These issues have a further political dimension, seeing as how the language question for both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland has been addressed in the peace accord of the late 1990s, which continues to be implemented in both parts of the island of Ireland.

For readers new to the area of language and society in Ireland a comprehensive glossary of common terms in the field has been added and a set of general references has been provided, which might help those interested in Irish history, literature and culture to orient themselves in these areas.

For these reasons and many more, which will hopefully become apparent in the various chapters of the volume, this project was undertaken during the past few years. It would not have been completed without the dedication of all the contributors and, as an editor and author, I express my gratitude to all my colleagues whose work fills the

pages of this book. My thanks also go to Libby Forrest and Rebecca Brennan at Palgrave Macmillan for their continual support for this project, and to the rest of the staff, especially the copy-editor Frances Tye, whose engaging work saw this volume swiftly and carefully to completion.

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Brian Clancy lectures in academic writing and research methods at Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick, Ireland. His research work focuses on the blend of a corpus linguistic methodology with the discourse analytic approaches of pragmatics and sociolinguistics. He is interested in the use of corpora in the study of language varieties, and the construction and analysis of small corpora. His published work addresses these areas and also explores corpus-based discourse analysis in intimate settings, such as between family and close friends, as well as varieties of Irish English. He is author of *Investigating Intimate Discourse: Exploring the Spoken Interaction of Families, Couples and Close Friends* (forthcoming) and co-author, with Anne O'Keeffe and Svenja Adolphs, of *Introducing Pragmatics in Use* (2011).

Tony Crowley is Professor of English, University of Leeds, and a former visiting professor at the Institute of Irish Studies in Liverpool. He has published widely in the area of language and cultural theory, including *Wars of Words: the Politics of Language in Ireland 1537–2004* (2005) and *Scouse: a Social and Cultural History* (2012). He also curates the Murals of Northern Ireland Collection at the Claremont Colleges Digital Library.

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Kevin McCafferty is Professor of English Linguistics, University of Bergen, Norway. His research interests are in the field of language variation and change, with a focus on Irish English. His main publication to date is *Ethnicity and Language Change: English in (London)Derry, Northern Ireland* (2001). He is co-editor of *Pragmatic Markers in Irish English* (2015, with Carolina P. Amador-Moreno and Elaine Vaughan). Articles have appeared in *Language Variation and Change*, *English World-Wide*, *Diachronica*, *Language and Literature*, *English Language and Linguistics*, *English Today*, *English World-Wide* and *American Speech*. His current research activity is focused on compiling the *Corpus of Irish English Correspondence* and using it to research the history of Irish English.

Siobhán Ní Laoire is Lecturer in Irish and Chair of MA in Applied Irish, Dublin Institute of Technology, where she is also currently Head of the Department of Languages. She previously held positions in the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (1991–2005), St Patrick's College, Dublin City University and University College Dublin. Most of her research work in recent years has focused on register and stylistic variation in contemporary Irish.

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Irina Pandarova is a research and teaching assistant in English Linguistics, Leuphana University, Lüneburg. Her main research interests are in the areas of variational pragmatics, the semantics/pragmatics interface (with a special focus on pragmatic markers), discourse analysis and Irish English. She is currently writing a PhD thesis on the semantics and pragmatics of the pragmatic marker *sure* across British, American and Irish English and is involved in a research project on tag questions across varieties of English.

Patricia Ronan is Lecturer and Research Fellow in English Linguistics, Department of English, University of Lausanne. She has previously worked at the Universities of Uppsala, Bonn, the Basque Country and Maynooth. Her research interests comprise both English Linguistics and Celtic – especially the medieval Irish language. Recent publications include the monograph ‘Make Peace’ and ‘Take Victory’. *Support Verb Constructions in Old English in Comparison with Old Irish* (2012), as well as the edited volume *L’Irlande et ses contacts/Ireland and its contacts* (2014).

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Nancy Stenson is Professor Emerita of Linguistics, University of Minnesota, USA, and Adjunct Professor, School of Psychology, UCD, where she recently completed a Fulbright Fellowship and a Marie Curie Incoming International Fellowship. Her research interests include structural aspects of language contact in Irish and the acquisition of Irish as a second language. Recent publications include *Basic Irish* and *Intermediate Irish* (2008), *An Haicléara Mánas* (2003), and articles with Tina Hickey on Irish L2 literacy in *Language, Culture and Curriculum* and the *Journal of Celtic Language Learning*. Current projects include completion (with Tina Hickey) of a manual of Irish orthography for teachers and learners.

Regina Uí Chollatáin is a Senior Lecturer and Director of the de Bhaldraithe Centre for Irish Language Scholarship, University College Dublin. Her main areas of research are Irish language revival and media. Her books include *An Claidheamh Soluis agus Fáinne an Lae 1899–1932* (2004), *Iriseoirí Pinn na Gaeilge* [Print-media journalists of Irish] (2008), co-edited publications include *P. H. Pearse: Life and After-life* (2009, with Roisín Higgins), *An Greann sa Ghaeilge* [Humour in Irish] (2013, with Malachy O’Neill), *Cnuasach Comhar 1982–2012* (2014, with Aisling Ní Dhonnchadha), and *Films gaèlics a Catalunya/Scannáin Ghaelacha sa Chatalóin* [Gaelic films in Catalonia] (2014, with Jerry White).

Elaine Vaughan is Lecturer in Applied Linguistics and Course Director for the MA TESOL, University of Limerick, Ireland. She has two main areas of teaching and research: language pedagogy for ELT/foreign language teaching, and using corpus-based methodologies to investigate varieties of English. She has published on teacher talk in workplace meetings (her PhD thesis) and language teachers as a community of practice, the pragmatics of Irish English and examining Irish English, discourse-pragmatic markers in spoken language, the use of humour and laughter in meetings and corpus linguistics more generally.

Shane Walshe is Lecturer in English, University of Zurich, Switzerland, and previously taught at the University of Bamberg, Germany. His main research interests are Irish English, literary dialect, perceptual dialectology and linguistic stereotyping. *Irish English as Represented in Film* (2009) examines the way in which Irish English is portrayed in 50 films set in Southern Ireland. Ongoing research projects include examinations of the portrayal of Irish speech in American comics and other forms of popular culture.

Iarfhlaith Watson is Lecturer in Sociology, University College Dublin, and a former President of the Sociological Association of Ireland. He publishes in both Irish and English. His research is mainly in the area of the Irish language, including his book *Broadcasting in Irish* (2003), and many articles and book chapters on linguistic elitism, Irish language media, and the educational advantages of speaking Irish. He has been a member of the Board of the International Visual Sociology Association and Irish Representative on the International Social Survey Programme, and has published on topics such as anti-immigrant attitudes and banal nationalism.

The International Phonetic Alphabet

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 2005)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

© 2005 IPA

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k g	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ			r					ʀ		
Tap or Flap		ⱱ		ɾ		ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x χ	ħ ʕ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ							
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

CONSONANTS (NON-PULMONIC)

Clicks	Voiced implosives	Ejectives
◌ ^ɓ Bilabial	◌ ^ɓ Bilabial	◌ ^ɛ Examples:
◌ ^ɗ Dental	◌ ^ɗ Dental/alveolar	◌ ^ɛ Bilabial
◌ ^{ɗ̥} (Post)alveolar	◌ ^{ɗ̥} Palatal	◌ ^ɛ Dental/alveolar
◌ ^{ɗ̥} Palatoalveolar	◌ ^{ɗ̥} Velar	◌ ^ɛ Velar
◌ ^{ɗ̥} Alveolar lateral	◌ ^{ɗ̥} Uvular	◌ ^ɛ Alveolar fricative

OTHER SYMBOLS

M	Voiceless labial-velar fricative	ʑ	Alveolo-palatal fricatives
W	Voiced labial-velar approximant	ɹ	Voiced alveolar lateral flap
ɥ	Voiced labial-palatal approximant	ɹ̥	Simultaneous ɹ and X
H	Voiceless epiglottal fricative		
ʕ	Voiced epiglottal fricative		Affricates and double articulations can be represented by two symbols
ʔ	Epiglottal plosive		joined by a tie bar if necessary.

DIACRITICS Diacritics may be placed above a symbol with a descender, e.g. $\dot{n}$

$\emptyset$	Voiceless	p	t	k	Breathily voiced	b	d	g	Dental	t	d
	Voiced	s	z	ʃ	Creakily voiced	b	d	g	Apical	t	d
h	Aspirated	p^{h}	t^{h}	k^{h}	Linguolabial	t	d	g	Laminal	t	d
ɔ	More rounded	ɔ^{r}			Labialized	t^{w}	d^{w}	g^{w}	Nasalized	ẽ	
ɛ	Less rounded	ɛ^{r}			Palatalized	t^{j}	d^{j}	g^{j}	Nasal release	d^{n}	
a	Advanced	a^{v}			Velarized	$\text{t}^{\text{ɹ}}$	$\text{d}^{\text{ɹ}}$	$\text{g}^{\text{ɹ}}$	Lateral release	d^{l}	
ɔ	Retracted	ɔ^{r}			Pharyngealized	$\text{t}^{\text{ʕ}}$	$\text{d}^{\text{ʕ}}$	$\text{g}^{\text{ʕ}}$	No audible release	d^{n}	
ɔ	Centralized	ẽ			Velarized or pharyngealized	t					
x	Mid-centralized	ẽ			Raised	e			(ɹ = voiced alveolar fricative)		
	Syllabic	ŋ			Lowered	e			(β = voiced bilabial approximant)		
ɔ	Non-syllabic	e			Advanced Tongue Root	ɛ					
ɔ	Rhoticity	ɹ	a^{r}		Retracted Tongue Root	e					

VOWELS

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel.

SUPRASEGMENTALS

TONES AND WORD ACCENTS

LEVEL		CONTOUR	
ē or ǣ	Extra high	ē or ǣ	Rising
ē	High	ē	Falling
ē	Mid	ē	High rising
ē	Low	ē	Low rising
ē	Extra low	ē	Rising-falling
↓	Downstep	↗	Global rise
↑	Upstep	↘	Global fall

<https://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/content/full-ipa-chart>

Maps

Map 1 Political division and cities in Ireland

Map 2 Provinces and counties of Ireland

Map 3 English dialect divisions in Ireland

Map 4 Irish-speaking regions of Ireland

Map 5 Ulster and Scotland