PREFACE

The All Ireland Algebra Days 2001 were held at the Department of Pure Mathematics of Queen's University Belfast during the period 16–19 May 2001. The goal of this meeting was to represent the various branches of Algebra that are researched into on the island of Ireland and to foster the interaction between highly specialised areas. To this end, a rich programme with eight main speakers and a number of contributed talks was set up. Rather than focussing on certain aspects within the vast field of Algebra we aimed at presenting as much diversity as possible.

As a result several talks discussed current trends in Group Theory whereas others were devoted to Representation Theory. Noncommutative Ring Theory, its interrelations with Operator Algebras, nonassociative structures such as Jordan and Lie (super) algebras, and PI Rings and Functional Identities featured together with aspects of Coding Theory and Algebraic Geometry. Module Theory, Morita Equivalence and K-Theory were among the topics as well.

With the aim to allow the participants who came from 15 different countries a glimpse into local culture and history, Thursday afternoon was reserved for social activities including a concert in the School of Music, a visit to the St Patrick Centre in Downpatrick and the Conference Dinner, which finished off with a session of traditional Irish music.

Thanks to all who came and contributed and helped to turn this endeavour into such a success, of which these Proceedings try to give a record.

Belfast, July 2003 *Martin Mathieu*