

**Notice of Annual General Meeting**  
12th AGM (2019)

**Venue:** Flinders University, Victoria Square, Adelaide

**Time:** 3.30pm

**Date:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019

1. **Confirmation of the minutes** of the previous Annual General Meeting (29 November 2018) (Appendix A)
2. **Reports** from the officers of the transactions of the Association during the last preceding financial year, 2017/2018.
  - a. President's Report (Ronan McDonald – See Appendix B)
  - b. Treasurer's Report (Philip Bull - see Appendix C)
  - c. Membership Secretary's Report (Paul Harris - see Appendix D)
  - d. Secretary's Report (Fidelma Breen – see Appendix E)
3. **Election of the officers** of the Association **and the ordinary members** of the Committee.
4. **Any Other Business**

Any questions regarding the AGM should be directed to the Secretary.

**Secretary's contact details:**

- email: fidelma.breen@yahoo.com
- mail: Dr Fidelma Breen,  
18 Mariner Drive,  
Sheidow Park SA 5158

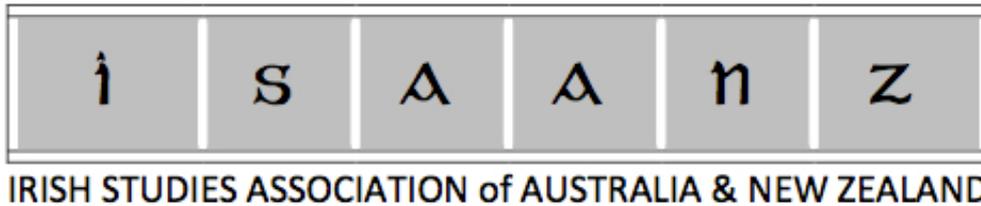
(Location: The conference website is to be found at:

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/engage/culture/whats-on/24th-australasian-irish-studies-conference>

**Important note:**

**If you are receiving this by ordinary mail**, the email address you gave us has failed or been inscrutable, or you have not supplied an email address. Because of the costs involved, we would prefer to contact you by email, so we would be grateful if you would advise us of the relevant email address and update us as necessary. Otherwise, we are happy to send by mail.

**Appendix A: Minutes of the ISAANZ AGM 2018**



**Minutes of Annual General Meeting  
11th AGM (2018)**

**Venue:** University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW

**Time:** 5.30pm, Thursday 29 November: Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand (ISAANZ) Annual General Meeting

**Present:** Rónán McDonald (chair), Pamela O’Neill (minutes), Roxanne Bodsworth, Peter Burke, Malcolm Campbell, Michael Christie, Sharon Crozier-De Rosa, Dianne Hall, Paul Harris, Stephanie James, Joan Kavanagh, Jeff Kildea, Dymphna Lonergan, Eamonn Perry McIntyre, McNamara, Chris Murray, Mary O’Connell, Méabh O’Leary, Seán O’Reilly, Ciara Smart, Nicola Tannion and Jimmy Yan.  
Visitors in attendance were Suzanne Jamieson and Anna Usmar

**Apologies:** Brad Patterson, Kathryn Patterson, Gay Lynch, John K. McLaughlin, Fidelma Breen,

**5. Confirmation of the minutes** of the previous Annual General Meeting (1 December 2016) (Attachment B)

Moved by John Clancy and seconded by Dianne Hall      Carried.

**6. Reports** from the officers of the transactions of the Association during the last preceding financial year, 2012/2013.

- a. President’s Report (Ronan McDonald). Moved: Jeff Kildea Seconded: Sharon Crozier de Rosa Carried.
- b. Treasurer’s Report (Philip Bull) Moved: Jeff Kildea Seconded: Sharon Crozier de Rosa Carried.
- c. Membership Secretary’s Report (Paul Harris) Moved: Jeff Kildea Seconded: Sharon Crozier de Rosa Carried.

**7. Election of the officers** of the Association **and the ordinary members** of the Committee.

**President:** Rónán McDonald, nominated by Brad Patterson and seconded by Fidelma Breen. Declared.

**Vice- President:** Brad Patterson, nominated by Kathryn Patterson and seconded by Malcolm Campbell. Declared.

**Secretary:** Fidelma Breen, nominated by Rónán McDonald and seconded by Brad Patterson Declared.

**Treasurer:** to be filled from the committee on a casual basis

### **Committee Members:**

Malcolm Campbell, nominated by Kathryn Patterson and seconded by Brad Patterson. Declared.

Olga Walker, nominated by Fidelma Breen and seconded by Brad Patterson. Declared.

Sharon Crozier de Rosa, nominated by Fidelma Breen and seconded by Ronan McDonald. Declared.

Jimmy Yan, Post Graduate Rep., nominated by Eamonn McNamara and seconded by Fidelma Breen. Declared

It was noted that Dianne Hall as editor and Dymphna Lonergan would also be on the committee ex officio.

### **8. Any Other Business**

It was reported that the next conference will be held in Adelaide, on the theme of Foregrounding Irish Women, 10-12 December 2019, with abstracts due in May. The 2020 conference will be held in Auckland. Discussion ensued on the possibly limiting nature of the theme. The theme was endorsed by the meeting (moved Eamonn McNamara, seconded Jeff Kildea).

Eamonn McNamara gave a report on his activities as postgraduate representative. A Facebook group for postgraduates and early career researchers has been established. He also mentioned the postgraduate essay prize and recommended a postgraduate workshop, possibly in connection with the next conference. Rónán McDonald thanked Eamonn for his energetic work in the role.

Dianne Hall reported on the Australasian Journal of Irish Studies. There are four editors: Dianne, Elizabeth Malcolm, Philip Bull and Frances Devlin-Glass. The editors are considering succession plans for the future. The journal is currently welcoming submissions, due by March for the next issue. The postgraduate essay competition is currently open, closing in February.

## Appendix B: President's Report 2019

*The Mission of the Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand is to promote and facilitate the advancement of knowledge about Ireland and Irish matters broadly conceived in Australia and New Zealand.*

### COMMITTEE

- President: Rónán McDonald (Melbourne)
- Vice-President: Brad Patterson (Wellington)
- Treasurer: Philip Bull (Melbourne)
- Secretary: Fidelma Breen (Adelaide)
- Membership Secretary: Paul Harris (Melbourne)

### *Ordinary Members*

- Sharon Crozier De Rosa (Woolongong)
- Jimmy Yan – Postgraduate Representative (Melbourne)
- Malcolm Campbell (Auckland)
- Olga McAuliffe-Walker

### *Ex-Officio Members*

- Journal Editor: Dianne Hall (Melbourne)

Dymphna Lonergan was coopted as representative of the 2019 Adelaide ISAANZ 24 Conference to be held in December.

I would like to thank all the committee for their service during 2019.

I would like to thank Jonathan Wooding and the organisers of the successful Sydney ISAANZ conference in December 2018.

Committee Meetings were held by Skype on  
3 September, 19 June, 30 April, 8 January

At the September meeting Paul Harris reported that membership was at 78. There are 15 former members who have yet to renew. We have therefore greatly expanded our membership, though we have not yet achieved our target of 100 members by year end. The conference in Adelaide and a symposium on 'What is Irish-Australian Literature' to be held in Melbourne on 22 November will help boost membership further. Special thanks to Paul for his sterling contribution in helping us monitor our membership and raise numbers.

Thanks to Sharon for monitoring our website and keeping it up to date.

The rise in membership is a direct result of the decision taken at the workshops to adjust our fee structure, giving members the option to join without the journal and making membership free for post-graduates and unwaged members.

Thanks to Jimmy Yan and our active social media presence we are reaching out to postgraduate and

early career academics. We will provide a forum for early career academics at the Adelaide conference under Jimmy's guidance.

### **AJIS**

The journal continues to appear regularly and to provide the only academic forum exclusively devoted to Irish studies in Australasia. Volume 19 is now available. Congratulations and thanks to Dianne Hall and the other editors for their work on the journal.

### **NEWSLETTER**

An ISAANZ newsletter was successfully distributed in August. This valuable initiative was spearheaded by Paul Harris. Our thanks to Paul for seeing this through and can I encourage all ISAANZ members to send items of interest to Paul so that we can make the newsletter a regular feature.

### **CONFERENCES**

ISAANZ 24 will take place from December 9-12, 2019 in Adelaide, South Australia. The theme of the conference is 'Foregrounding Irish Women : the Antipodes and beyond'. Our thanks to the conference organisers, including Fidelma and Dymphna, for organizing what promises to be an excellent conference which will make strong links between the Association and current academic interest in women's studies across disciplines.

ISAANZ 25 will take place from 2-4 December 2020 at the University of Auckland. This helps to meet the decision the committee made at our March 2018 workshop to plan out conferences further in advance. It will be a welcome return to New Zealand which has not hosted an ISAANZ conference since 2012.

### **GOING FORWARD**

-We are still pursuing the redesign of the ISAANZ logo.

-Relatedly, we seek material to populate website and newsletter, including recordings of lectures and seminars.

-The future of the Association relies on new members and committee members getting involved, inaugurating activities and building networks. Please help us to achieve this by spreading the word and volunteering.

In particular, can I encourage all members to come forward if they are interested in joining the committee or taking on an officer role. Several of the current officers have been in place for many years and have indicated a willingness to step aside should new people indicate an interest in helping ISAANZ realise its mission. Anyone who is interested in getting involved, or running for election at the AGM, please contact me or any committee member for a private, no obligation conversation.

Rónán McDonald  
President  
Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand

**Appendix C: Treasurer's Report 2019**

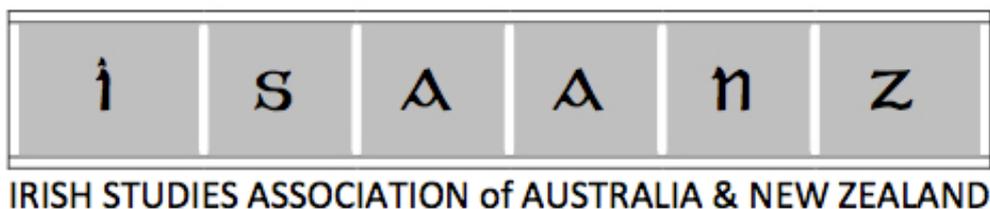
**Treasurer's Report for 2018–2019 Financial Year**

INCOME, EXPENDITURE and FINANCIAL POSITION  
as at 30 June 2019

<b>Funds on hand at 1 July 2018</b>	<u>\$18,887.39</u>
<b><u>Add</u></b> Income for the year	
Membership and AJIS subscriptions	3,375.00
CAL – copyright payment	603.42
RMIT – royalties	68.17
<b>Total income</b>	<u>\$4,046.59</u>
<b><u>Less</u></b> Expenditure for the year	
McPherson's – printing (vol 18)	1,078.00
Editing & typesetting (vol 18)	2,700.00
Postage etc (vol 18)	509.50
Essay prizes	637.00
Web redesign	1,000.00
PayPal fee	1.10
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>\$5,925.60</u>
<b>Net profit/loss for year</b>	<u>(\$1,879.01)</u>
<b>Funds on hand at 30 June 2019</b>	<u>\$17,008.38</u>

Philip Bull  
Hon. Treasurer  
1 August 2019.

## Appendix D: Membership Secretary's Report 2019



### Membership Report for ISAANZ AGM 2019

#### 1. Membership

The association's membership has grown by 18 since the 2018 Annual General Meeting in Sydney. While this is certainly good news, as a proportion of the total, paid membership dropped 5% in the last year. This may be partially due to older members retiring, and lapsed paid memberships could also be a factor.

Personalised membership renewal reminders were sent to those who had become un-financial this year, but a number unfortunately remain in arrears, some also with lapsed journal subscriptions. In addition to welcoming new people, retaining members and supporters is essential for the association. Reaching out to past supporters through the newsletter in a specific appeal or as part of a general membership drive may be options worth considering.

As in previous years, the conference in December may also encourage people to join or renew lapsed memberships. Current member numbers are broken down in the following table with variations since the last AGM in grey parentheses.

Membership Breakdown								
<i>Paid (inc. Life)</i>			<i>Concession</i>			<i>Total</i>		
With Sub.	No Sub.	All	With Sub.	No Sub.	All	With Sub.	No Sub.	All
45 (4)	8 (4)	53 (8)	17 (7)	11 (3)	28 (10)	62 (11)	19 (7)	81 (18)
84.9%	15.1%	65.4%	60.7%	39.3%	34.6%	76.5%	23.5%	

Moving membership data to a better platform should be a priority for the association in the coming year. This would allow membership and journal subscriptions to be managed simply and more efficiently than current methods.

#### 2. Newsletters

Two electronic newsletters were sent to members and supporters this year, in January and August. The latest reported on the Irish-Australian literature symposium in Melbourne in November and ISAANZ conference in Adelaide in December. Alternatives to the Mailchimp platform are being considered for newsletter distribution and special announcements.

Paul Harris,  
26 October 2019

## Appendix E: Secretary's Report 2018

### 1. Committee Workshops

The committee held four meetings via Skype since the last AGM in November 2018. These were fruitful discussions which considered strategic direction, membership value (based on the membership survey), website updates, the Australasian Journal of Irish Studies (AJIS) and the general purpose of annual conference series.

### 2. Rebranding

In keeping with a commitment to revitalise the organisation the committee explored new logo designs and several possible designs were produced. These draft designs now need to be developed by someone new as the previous designer is no longer available to work on this project. We are confident that the next committee can bring this matter to a successful conclusion.

### 3. Fiscal streamlining

In 2017 the committee agreed to separate the income streams from AJIS and ISAANZ membership in order to create a more transparent financial statement for members. This process is ongoing. The committee has taken steps to gain Deductible Gift Recipient Status which will allow benefactors to make tax-deductible donations to ISAANZ. These may fund postgraduate conference bursaries and the like going forward. The DGR status application is ongoing presently and we will inform members and update the Membership Form as soon as possible.

### 4. Online strategy

In keeping with the need to reinvigorate the Association, committee members are mindful of the need to maintain and expand the ISAANZ presence online.

If you use Twitter, please follow and retweet @ISAANZ. Similarly, if you subscribe to Facebook, please follow the page at

<https://www.facebook.com/irishstudiesaustralianewzealand/?ref=bookmarks>.

Postgraduate students and Early Career Researchers are encouraged to join the ISAANZ Postgrad/ECR group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/290902841386757/> Please contact Jimmy Yan ([hjyan@student.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:hjyan@student.unimelb.edu.au)) if you have any difficulties.

If you come across news articles or conference or publication postings which would be of interest to members please post them to the Facebook page, retweet with @ISAANZ in your tweet and/or send to Membership Secretary, Paul Harris, for inclusion in the next newsletter ([paul-harris@bigpond.com](mailto:paul-harris@bigpond.com))

Dr Fidelma Breen,  
October 2019