

**Notice of Annual General Meeting**  
13th AGM (2020)

**Zoom link:** <https://adelaide.zoom.us/j/82672744387>

**Time:** 7:00pm ACDT (Adelaide), 7:30pm AEDT (Melbourne), 9:30pm NZDT (Wellington).

**Date:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020

1. **Confirmation of the minutes** of the previous Annual General Meeting (11 December 2019) (Appendix A)
2. **Reports** from the officers of the transactions of the Association during the last preceding financial year, 2018/2019.
  - a. President's Report (Ronan McDonald – See Appendix B)
  - b. Treasurer's Report (Chris Murray - 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:**

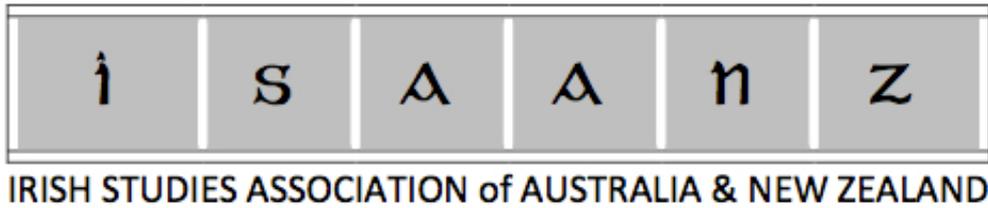
email: [fidelma.breen@yahoo.com](mailto:fidelma.breen@yahoo.com)

postal: Dr Fidelma McCorry,  
18 Mariner Drive,  
Sheidow Park SA 5158

**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 2019



### Minutes of Annual General Meeting 12th AGM (2019)

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

**Time:** 3.30pm, Wednesday 11 December 2019

**Present:** Rónán McDonald (chair), Fidelma Breen (Minute Secretary), Brad Patterson, Kathryn Patterson, Dymphna Lonergan, Susan Arthure, Stephanie James, Sarah Doherty, Pauline Peel, Dianne Heenan, Michael Christie, Jeannette Mollenhauer, Dianne Hall, Eamonn McNamara, Anne Cunningham, Jeff Kildea, Liz Rushen, Sonja Tiernan, Kevin Molloy, John Clancy, Frances Devlin-Glass, Perry McIntyre, Philip Bull, Michael O’Fhathartaigh, Mary O’Connell, Sharon Crozier De Rosa.

**Apologies:** Geraldene O’Reilly, John McLaughlin, Malcolm Campbell, Mr and Mrs Dennis

#### 5. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (29 November 2018) (Attachment B)

Moved by Ronan McDonald and seconded by Philip Bull. Carried.

#### 6. Reports from the officers of the transactions of the Association during the last preceding financial year, 2018/2019.

- a. President’s Report (Ronan McDonald). Moved: Dianne Hall. Seconded: Sharon Crozier de Rosa. Carried.
- b. Treasurer’s Report (Philip Bull). Moved: Fidelma Breen. Seconded: Dianne Hall. Carried.
- c. Membership Report (Paul Harris). Moved: Philip Bull. Seconded: Frances Devlin-Glass. Carried. Note: Ronan gave in absentia thanks for Paul for all his hard work on the membership records, website, financials and many other aspects of ISAANZ committee work.
- d. Secretary’s Report (Fidelma Breen). Moved: Brad Patterson. Seconded: Philip Bull. Carried.

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

Ronan McDonald offered thanks to Philip Bull who was retiring from the role of Treasurer on behalf of the Committee and Members of ISAANZ for his many years of work in the Association. He announced that Fidelma Breen would be stepping down from the position of Secretary at ISAANZ/25 in 2020 and that she would be shadowed this coming year by Matthew Ryan as a plan of succession. He encouraged all members to consider nominating for both specific positions and general committee roles to assist the Association to grow and evolve in the coming years.

**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:** Christopher Murray – nominated by Rónán McDonald and seconded by Fidelma Breen. Declared

## **Committee Members:**

Malcolm Campbell. Nominated by Kathryn Patterson and seconded by Brad Patterson. Declared.

Matthew Ryan. Nominated by Rónán McDonald and seconded by Fidelma Breen. Declared.

Sonja Tiernan. Nominated by Brad Patterson and seconded by Rónán McDonald. Declared.

Sharon Crozier de Rosa. Nominated by Fidelma Breen and seconded by Rónán McDonald. Declared.

Jimmy Yan, PostGrad Rep. Nominated by Eamonn McNamara and seconded by Fidelma Breen. Declared.

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

## **8. Other Business**

Brad Patterson reported that the next conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, 2-4 December 2020. Malcolm Campbell is organising in conjunction with Brad.

Kathryn Patterson asked that her email address please be checked as she isn't receiving ISAANZ emails.

Dianne Hall reported that a new Editor, Chris Murray, had joined the Australasian Journal of Irish Studies team. Vol 19 has been distributed to subscribers and Vol 20 submissions are due soon.

AJIS Online has also been launched. This is an open access initiative which features unpublished papers broadly concerned with Irish Studies. These are articles that would not normally fit in an academic journal - poetry, conference papers, art work etc. The material is not peer reviewed but does undergo an editorial process. Members were encouraged to read AJIS Online and to contribute to it also.

Dianne reported that AJIS were offering internships. There were a number of carefully delineated tasks being undertaken by Leila Crawford and Nicola Cousins currently which included looking after social media posts. Leila and Nicola are proving to be of enormous assistance to the editorial team. Val Noone concurred.

The 2020 Postgraduate Essay Prize is open until February 2020.

The meeting closed at 4.05pm.

## Appendix B: President's Report 2020

*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: Ronan McDonald (Melbourne)

Vice-President: Brad Patterson (Wellington)

Treasurer: Chris Murray (Melbourne)

Secretary: Fidelma McCorry (Adelaide)

Membership: Paul Harris (Melbourne)

### Ordinary Members

Sonja Tiernan (Otago)

Sharon Crozier De Rosa (Wollongong)

Jimmy Yan – Postgraduate Representative (Melbourne)

Matthew Ryan (Melbourne)

Malcolm Campbell (Auckland)

### Ex-Officio Members

Journal Editor: Dianne Hall (Melbourne)

2020 has been a year in which ISAANZ activities have been severely disrupted due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Conference due to take place in Auckland in December 2020 under Malcolm Campbell's direction has been postponed until 2021, with a date to be confirmed.

Since my last report, the 24th ISAANZ conference took place at Flinders University in Adelaide, December 9-12, 2019. The theme of the conference was 'Foregrounding Irish Women: the Antipodes and beyond'. It was a great success, academically and socially, and another tremendous fillip for the Association. It was especially gratifying to see ECR and PG attendees well represented. My thanks to the conference organisers, Fidelma McCorry, Dymphna Lonergan, Susan Arthure, and Stephanie James.

The Melbourne Irish Studies Seminar series held at Newman College, took a hiatus for Semester 1 as a result of COVID-19 shutdown. However, MISS was successfully held on Zoom during Semester 2. I am pleased to say that the event held on 13th October, in which Professor Sonja Tiernan spoke on the topic 'Commemorating Controversy: Women and the Shaping of Modern Ireland', is now on the ISAANZ website. The remaining three sessions for the year will also be recorded and put on our website. This realizes a long-held goal to make recordings of MISS seminars available to all ISAANZ members.

I want to thank all the committee for their service and in particular Paul for attending to membership so well, answering correspondence and for helping with the website. Thanks also to Jimmy, Fidelma and Di who have kept the Association visible in the Irish studies community through social media.

## AJIS

The journal continues to appear regularly and to provide the only academic forum exclusively devoted to Irish studies in Australasia. Volume 20 is now available. Congratulations and thanks to Dianne Hall and the other editors for their work on the journal.

## GOING FORWARD

Like any Association, ISAANZ needs active and involved members to share information, inaugurate activities and build networks. Can I please encourage you to notify us of activities and events that may be of interest to our members. Send any event details and other information to be circulated to [isaanzlr@gmail.com](mailto:isaanzlr@gmail.com) so that this can be shared through the website, social media and our newsletters.

Anyone interested in getting involved in the Committee, or running for election at the AGM, please contact me or any committee member for a private, no obligation conversation.

Fidelma will also be stepping down as Secretary at the next AGM I would like to thank her for her invaluable work in this role over the last several years, which she has performed with diligence and vision. Her energy and drive helped us through a strategy re-set and allowed the Association to widen its disciplinary remit and broaden its membership base.

Brad Patterson will be stepping down as Vice President at the AGM. Brad has been VP from the start of ISAANZ in 2006 and had played a key role in maintaining the distinctive trans-Tasman identity of the Association. Brad's vision, leadership and experience have also been central in the strategic workshops that we have had over the last few years. I thank him sincerely on behalf of the Association.

Finally, I would like to notify members that I also will not be seeking re-election as President. I took over in the role from Elizabeth Malcolm at the 2012 AGM at the Otago conference. After eight years, I think it is time to step aside to allow someone else to take over the President's role. It seems fittingly circular that we are set to return to NZ for our next major conference. I would like to thank the committee and all members for your support and hope that you will continue to support ISAANZ in the future.

Ronan McDonald  
**President**  
13 November 2020

<b>Appendix C: Treasurer's Report 2020</b>
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## **Treasurer's Report for 2019–2020 Financial Year**

Financial position 1 July 2019 **\$17,008.38 cr**

### **Income** FY 2019–20

Membership and <i>AJIS</i> subscriptions	\$2,385.00
Copyright Agency	\$155.56
EBSCO	\$450.00
RMIT	\$61.91
<b>Total in</b>	<b>\$3,232.47</b>

### **Expenditure** FY 2019–20

AJIS typesetting	\$2,100.00
AJIS printing	\$1,300.75
AJIS postage	\$669.27
ISAANZ essay prize	\$302.43
<b>Total out</b>	<b>\$4,372.45</b>

**NET profit/loss** FY2019–20 **\$1,139.88 dr**

Financial position 30 June 2020 **\$15,868.50 cr**

### ***AJIS* costs**

Production cost per unit *AJIS* 19 **\$34.06** (typesetting + printing cost ÷ 125 copies)

Envelopes \$19.77

Postage costs per unit *AJIS* 19

Domestic	\$5
NZ	\$10.50
Asia Pacific	\$12
Rest of World	\$18

Chris Murray  
Treasurer  
12 November 2020

## Appendix D: Membership Secretary's Report 2020

The association's operational capacity was restricted this year, particularly during the extended lockdown in Melbourne which presented some logistical challenges. While engagement with the membership was limited overall numbers remained steady. Paid memberships declined as people retired and others took advantage of fee waivers due to altered financial circumstances. Current membership numbers are broken down in the following table with variations since the previous AGM in parentheses.

<b>Membership Breakdown</b>								
<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
35 (-10)	4 (-4)	39 (-14)	24 (7)	19 (8)	43 (15)	57 (-5)	12 (-7)	82 (1)
89.7%	10.3%	49.4%	55.0%	45.0%	50.6%	72.2%	24.1%	

A number of past members also remain in arrears or have lapsed, and an effort should be made to reach out and reconnect with past supporters. Membership data is being moved from spreadsheets to a secure database which should enable automated renewal notices.

### 2. Newsletters

No newsletters were produced this year as constrained resources were focused on other activities. Newsletters rely on input from members and supporters wishing to share information about activities and events. In the coming year it is hoped we'll be able to resume the newsletter, making current and past editions available through the website. Anyone with information to share can send details to the association's primary email address: [issaanzlr@gmail.com](mailto:issaanzlr@gmail.com)

### 3. Website

Issues with the stability of the ISAANZ website provided an opportunity to refresh the design and move to a simpler, more secure platform. Membership renewals, donations, and AJIS back issue purchases can now be made through the website. Event recordings such as Melbourne Irish Studies Seminars (MISS) currently hosted online are available through the website.

Paul Harris  
 Membership  
 13 November 2020

## Appendix E: Secretary's Report 2020

### 1. Committee Workshops

As you are well aware 2020 has been an unusual year. There were no committee meetings held although there were lots of email discussions regarding the upcoming, and now postponed, Auckland conference. The annual conference is usually the reason for formal committee meetings and with all in flux it is not surprising that we did not meet post-March.

### 2. Rebranding

In keeping with a commitment to revitalise the organisation the committee explored new logo designs and we have draft designs which 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

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 has been granted but a second bank account is needed to receive tax-deductible gifts. Because our banking is done in Melbourne and the city was in a strict lockdown, this matter remains ongoing presently but will, I am sure, be resolved soon. 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/>

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 [isaanzlr@gmail.com](mailto:isaanzlr@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Dr Fidelma McCorry  
Secretary  
12 November 2020