

2020 has been an exceptionally challenging year. Geographers of all ages across all sectors of education as well as in the wider community have responded to the crisis in varied ways, and geographical research and education has continued unabated. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform our membership of the key activities of the GSI and the wider geographical community in Ireland over this turbulent period and to signpost some activities for 2021.

[New GSI Appointments: Dr. Kathy Reilly \(President\) and Dr Karen Keaveney \(Secretary\)](#)

The Society is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Kathy Reilly (School of Geography, Archaeology & Irish Studies, NUI Galway) as the new President of the GSI. Kathy takes over from Dr Adrian Kavanagh (Department of Geography, Maynooth University). The Society welcomes Kathy to the role and extends its gratitude to Adrian for his tireless work and dedication to Geography in Ireland over the course of the past four years. The Society also announces the appointment of Dr Karen Keaveney (School of Agriculture and Food Science, UCD) as the new secretary of the Society. Karen takes over from Dr Eoin Mahoney (UCD). Again, the Society welcome Karen to the role and extends its gratitude to Eoin for his contribution over the course of the past four years.

Research News

[Geographers Respond to Covid 19](#)

Irish Geographers, in collaboration with others, have made several contributions to our understanding of the pandemic; the challenges it poses, its impact on communities and the implications of management strategies. In so doing, the significance of space, place and location, as well as spatial mobility and interaction as factors that underpin how a pandemic progresses, has been highlighted. Ronan Foley's editorial in the Vol 53, No 1 (2020) edition of *Irish Geography* 'Geography and the Covid-19 Crisis in Ireland' examines these issues from several disciplinary perspectives. Foley reminds us all of the fundamental importance of geographical knowledge.

Also, highlighting the importance of knowledge gleaned from spatial analysis is the research by Gerald Mills et. al. (forthcoming) 'Making sense of publicly available data on COVID-19 in Ireland'. Involving a collaboration between geographers and medical practitioners, this work draws on publicly available data to examine the impact and pace of the pandemic as it waxed and waned unevenly across the country.

McCarthy and MacCarron's work on RTE's Brainstorm that describes the spatial analysis of the death notices published on RIP.ie has received significant attention in the media. It highlights the counties most affected by the saddest impacts of the virus, whilst also reminding us of the real people, families and communities that lie behind the statistics.

Finally, the Transnational Lives Project undertaken by MIC researchers Sara Hannafin (Geography) and Marc Scully (Psychology) in collaboration with Niamh McNamara from Nottingham Trent University launched an online survey into the experience of transnational families during the pandemic. The research aims to investigate the impact of ongoing travel restrictions on the Irish in Britain and the British in Ireland who perhaps previously took travel between the two islands for granted. The GSI would like to extend its condolences to all those who have lost loved ones during this crisis.

Social Enterprise Research Capacity and Demands in the Mid-West (LIT)



A number of research activities related to social enterprise are currently being led by Dr Marie Taylor (Senior Project Officer in Social Enterprise and Rural Development, Development Office, LIT). Firstly, the [SocialB](#)

project, which commenced in January 2020 and runs until December 2022, is a collaboration between 8 partners from the social enterprise, training and Higher Education sectors in 4 countries: Ireland, Greece, Italy and Slovenia. It is funded by the Erasmus+ Knowledge alliance programme. The SocialB training project aims to enhance sustainability and employability within the social economy sector, by empowering existing and future social enterprise practitioners with critical competencies and skills, by promoting and imparting entrepreneurial and transversal skills to HEI/VET students, and by enhancing the practical and operational knowledge base and learning of HEI/VET institutions' staff.

In addition, the Development Unit (DU) and LIT is delighted to welcome a new postgraduate student in social enterprise research, Jade Foynes. Jade is a former student of LIT and achieved an Honours BA in Social Care Work. Her research is on 'Mapping Social Enterprise Capacity and Demands in the Mid-West'. Her principal supervisor is Seamus Hoynes, Development Unit Manager and co-supervisor is Dr. Marie Taylor, Senior Project Officer in Social Enterprise and Rural Development. The LIT Research Masters will contribute to the growing research in social enterprise in Ireland. For further information contact Marie.taylor@lit.ie



A second project, the [EMwoSE](#) project is aimed at increasing the employment of women from ethnic minorities, providing them with the knowledge and practical skills necessary for engaging in the social enterprise world. This project is funded by the Erasmus+ and involved partners from 7 countries: Ireland, UK, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Germany and Lithuania.

Part of the project includes the development of a Storytelling library of over 30 videos of interviews of female entrepreneur success stories highlighting their initiative and entrepreneurial skills as well as outlining some of the challenges they have faced. An information event on the main findings and outcomes of the EMwoSE project was held online on December 3rd.

Micro-geographies, psycho-geographies and the COVID-19 lockdown - Dr Frank Houghton, Health Geographer, Limerick Institute of Technology. Frank.Houghton@LIT.ie

As the current and future threat of COVID-19, or its variants, continues, and Garda powers to police our freedom of movement have been enshrined in law, many of us may be feeling the effects of 'cabin fever'. The mundane and monotonous vista of our habitual residences has for many become mind-numbing. However, history, or perhaps I should say Geography, provides notable examples of alternative ways to view one's enforced isolation. The best example of this is by Xavier de Maistre, a soldier in the army of Piedmont-Sardinia, who at the age 27 was confined to his room for 42 days after fighting an illegal duel.

Using his confinement to best effect he wrote a now classic text in a field usually referred to as psychogeography called *Voyage autour de ma chambre/ Journey around my room*. This work, completed in 1794, reads like a travel journal parodying the style of literary works of the time such as Louis de Bougainville's text from 1771 *A Voyage Around the World*. In Maistre's text each and every minuscule object that he encounters results in ecstatic praise and each journey is a grand voyage of adventure.

English translations of this classic text are long out of copyright and numerous pdf versions are available on-line for free. Of course, as we can anticipate future lockdowns, without any definitive end in sight, I probably should mention the sequel as well. Over the following twenty-five years Xavier de Maistre wrote his follow-up 'travel journal': *Expédition Nocturne Autour de ma Chambre/ Nocturnal expedition around my room.*

Climate Change Research 'Terrain-AI' (Maynooth University)

Maynooth geographer Dr Rowan Fealy, in collaboration with Prof Tim McCarthy, was awarded a €5 million research grant for a new climate change project, 'Terrain-AI' funded by Microsoft Ireland and Science Foundation Ireland. The project will produce a new understanding of land-use management in a context of constrained carbon emissions using artificial intelligence. Highlighted by the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science and the Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland, this is a fantastic example of geographers taking the lead in advancing critical research about climate futures. The project will be led by Maynooth University (ICARUS and NCG), in collaboration with Teagasc, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, Dublin City University, and University of Limerick. For more information visit the [Terrain-AI](#) website

Triple C: Capitalising on risk projects linked to Climate Change (LIT)

In the past, communities have mainly operated in isolation from each other when dealing with climate change and disaster management. Greater cooperation would increase the effectiveness of reducing people's vulnerability to rising insecurities and to strengthen the Atlantic Area resilience. Beginning in 2019 and funded by Interreg Atlantic Area, Triple-C is a capitalization initiative focused on the analysis, evaluation and exploitation of best EU projects on the prevention and management of risks deriving from climate change.

Throughout the year, a number of in-person and then online transnational research missions took place, where invited speakers presented their climate projects to an international audience. These will continue over the course of the project with many outreach and communication strategies outlined for 2021. For more information see [The Triple C](#) website or contact Dr Darren Barry, Senior Project Officer, Development Unit, LIT darren.barry@lit.ie

Young People's Experiences of the Climate Crisis

A research team from the Discipline of Geography at NUI Galway is part of a consortium that have won a competitive international research funding award of €1.38 million under the JPI Climate SOLSTICE initiative to explore how young people across Europe experience the climate crisis. Commencing in December 2020, the project, will comprise of research teams from the UK, Ireland, Finland and Italy. The researchers will work with young people, teachers, educational institutions and youth groups on the project, which aims to generate knowledge of how youth experience and make sense of climate complexity. The NUI Galway research team will draw on the vast interdisciplinary experience of the project team comprised of Dr Gary Goggins, Professor Frances Fahy and Dr Kathy Reilly from Geography. Climate change is an existential threat that must be addressed through concerted action involving all of society. Recently, young people have put themselves at the forefront of these efforts through coordinated activities, such as school strikes. These call for greater attention and decisive action from governments and other powerful actors to mitigate climate change and protect people from its harmful effects. At the same time, there is emerging consensus that lack of effective climate leadership, combined with institutional inertia and confused governance mechanisms, is resulting in widespread climate indifference or extremism. Increasing awareness of the impacts and effects of climate change, as well as the measures that can be taken to mitigate against it, is crucial in building an empowered and resilient climate-literate youth that can develop

and support solutions now and in the future. Dr Gary Goggins, who leads the research team in the Discipline of Geography at NUI Galway, said: “It is vital that we listen to young people and include their voices in our ongoing efforts to tackle climate change. Young people are the future, but they are also important in the present. Understanding how young people experience this rapidly changing world, and their place in it, is central to developing effective solutions to the common challenges we face.” The research will co-create a framework that enables young people to express how growing up in their particular contexts and spaces (including formal education, relationships, communities and extracurricular spaces) plays a role in their worldview formation and openness to new ways of thinking and doing. This framework will support the development of practical tools for teaching and learning in participating schools and beyond. Policy recommendations will consider social, political, cultural and economic contexts in each region under study, and local, national and international recommendations will be put forward and disseminated widely among policy-makers and other stakeholders. Best practice guidelines will enable knowledge exchange between participating countries and across a wider European context. Dr Jonathan Derham, EPA, said “The Environmental Protection Agency welcomes the success of NUI Galway in a very competitive pan-European research call: this reflects the importance of this research area and the excellence of the University team. The huge success of the 2019 Youth Assembly on Climate and the resulting media engagement demonstrated the need for more productive and enduring dialogue with young people in relation to concerns and solutions. It is expected that this research will assist in supporting delivery of these ambitions.” The project is funded by the JPI Climate SOLSTICE initiative for three years (2020-2023) with a total project budget of €1.38 million. The funding organization for Ireland is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Carbon Connects Project: LIT

The Irish partners of EU INTERREG Carbon Connects Project in Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) are collaborating with a European Innovation Project (EIP) known as “Freshwater Pearl Mussel Project (PMP)”, Institute of Technology (IT), Sligo and a private landowner. The LIT in collaboration with private landowner, PMP and IT, Sligo are monitoring the carbon sequestration potential of a cutover and drained blanket peatland of 9 hectares (ha) located near Galway. The private landowner owns the blanket peatland site extending to 40 ha. The LIT are quantifying the carbon sequestration potential of 9 ha of peatland contained within the 40 ha blanket peatland. This peatland is located in the Owenriff river catchment, a freshwater pearl mussel habitat. The blanket peatland is characterized by a mixture of non-vegetated bare peat surfaces and vegetation such as soft rush, Ling heather, bog heath and some sphagnum mosses. For more details visit the [Carbon Connects](#) website.

Quantifying Ireland’s Dust Bowl: An interdisciplinary assessment of potential loess genesis, deposition, and dynamics in the Burren

Gordon Bromley, Geographer at NUIG, is heading a new collaborative project, funded by Geological Survey Ireland (Short Call 2020 programme), entitled ‘Quantifying Ireland’s Dust Bowl: An interdisciplinary assessment of potential loess genesis, deposition, and dynamics in the Burren’. Involving partners at Uppsala University, Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, and NUIG (Geography and EOS), these 14 month-long investigations will employ geochemistry, geochronology, and geomorphology to explore the origins and climatic significance of wind-blown sedimentary deposits in the Burren, Co. Clare. This is part of a larger ongoing project into the terrestrial manifestation of abrupt climate change in the North Atlantic basin.

Facilitating our Future Farmers: National and International Perspectives NUIG

GALWAY

A four-year RURALIZATION project is currently underway at NUI Galway. The aims of the project are to identify and assess innovative ways to facilitate new entrants into farming, succession and to access farmland. Now over a year into the RURALIZATION project, the research team held a conference in December which brought together researchers and practitioners to explore how we can enable our future farmers gain access to farmland and the farming sector.

UrbanARK project (QUB)

Partners across the island collaborated in launching the [UrbanARK project](#), which aims to improve the resilience and emergency preparedness of urban centres and their communities to the threat of coastal flooding. The US-Ireland Project between the SNBE Team (Ulrich Offerdinger, Jenny McKinley, David Hughes, John Meneely and Aaron Miller) together with the project partners at University College Dublin and New York University held a successful online stakeholder workshop on Friday, 4th December 2020. The workshop was attended by more than 70 delegates from New York City, Belfast and Dublin including colleagues from the New York City Mayor Office, the New York City Emergency Management Department, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Belfast City Council, Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland, Dublin City Council and the Office of Public Works. Despite the disappointment that the event, previously planned for early 2020 could not be held in person due to the Covid situation, the online meeting provided a great platform for engaging with key stakeholders and agencies across the three jurisdictions and the format supported by New York City's "Town and Gown" programme served as a great template for exchanging ideas and expertise between researchers and practitioners.

Community Heritage Research Mapping Monuments (QUB)

Funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) has been awarded to staff at Queens University Belfast to support a new community heritage project as part of the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) led by Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (CCGHT).

One of the scheme's funded projects is being led by geographers from Queen's University Belfast to explore the landscape legacies of the early Ordnance Survey around the Lough Foyle baseline. Called "Mapping Monuments" this project will involve local community volunteer researchers working in collaboration with researchers from Queen's. The project will run in 2021-2022 and its purpose is to celebrate the bicentenary of the OS in Ireland (1822-2022) by drawing on local enthusiasm and interest in the OS Lough Foyle baseline and its history and monuments. As part of the OS in Ireland bicentenary, a conference will be held in 2022 to report on the project findings. By researching the physical remains of the baseline, as well as its impact on the local landscape and history, Mapping Monuments will also form the basis for an exhibition and publication. Activities involved in the project include field-surveys in and around Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands, comprising detailed digital recording of the monuments of the OS (especially the baseline towers but also associated features such as early OS trigonometrical stations and levelling marks), oral history recording of local field-names along the baseline, and a geophysical survey at selected locations. The project will be led by Prof Keith Lilley (QUB) and a programme of workshops and on-site activities will be coordinated in collaboration with the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis (CDDA) and Centre for GIS and Geomatics, all based at QUB and involving researchers known locally and to the CCGHT. This project team includes the local Binevenagh LPS coordinator, Dr Andrew Bratton, a former PhD researcher in Geography at QUB. For further details please contact Prof Lilley by email (k.lilley@qub.ac.uk) or Twitter [@profkdilley](#).

SloWaters: (TCD): A strategic Approach to Natural Water Retention measures in Ireland



Dr Mary Bourke (TCD) leads an EPA/OPW funded project to assess the viability of Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) on Agricultural land in Ireland. Project partners include Dr Simon Harrison (UCC), Dr Paul Quinn (Newcastle University), Dr Mark Wilkinson (Hutton Institute, Scotland).

NWRM have the potential to mitigate flood damage by slowing the flow and improving water quality by the retention of soil loss and nutrients. Two 'demonstration sites' are under development on Co. Wexford and Co. Cork. The project team will work with Teagasc on data collected from their Agricultural catchments program to model the potential for scaling-up the approach. Follow the project on Twitter @NWRM_Ire.

Update on the Irish Historic Towns Atlas

As with most activity this year, the Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) funnelled new releases and events online. Below is a summary of what has happened with the project. Our annual seminar was postponed in May and we hope to hold this in 2021 instead. We bid farewell to one of our honorary editors, Jacinta Prunty, who has taken up a role in a teacher training college in South Sudan. A small tribute to her work with the project can be found [here](#).

IHTA Online

Youghal became the twenty-seventh IHTA to become freely available online. Published in 2015, David Kelly and Tadhg O'Keefe's atlas is available as a word searchable pdf along with the Ordnance Survey maps. You can access *Youghal* and the other atlas on [IHTA Online](#). *Galway* will be included in the coming months. [The Digital Atlas of Dungarvan](#) was released as part of Heritage Week 2020. Over 600 sites from the most recent atlas, Dungarvan, were plotted using ArcGIS. A number of map layers and filters may be used to investigate Dungarvan's history. A StoryMap was also produced as an introduction to the history of Dungarvan and how to use the Digital Atlas.

Drogheda Pocket Map

Drogheda c. 1180 to c. 1900: fortified boroughs to industrial port town by Ned Mc Hugh is an ancillary publication to IHTA no. 29, [Drogheda/Droichead Átha](#) published in 2019. Over 700 historic sites are plotted onto a modern base and has an accompanying booklet with essay and list of sites.

Vignettes from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas

For Heritage Northern Ireland and the British Council Festival of Archaeology an exhibition of themes was curated from the IHTA series to display People and Place, Life and Death, Rivers and Bogs, and Health and Medicine. This was originally a social media campaign that was brought together for Culture Night 2020 and can be visited [here](#):

Frank Cullen looked at [Dublin 1847 maps and themes for the Dublin Festival of History](#) by contrasting the port of Dublin to the N.E. of city with the industrial S.W. through the Ordnance Survey maps from 1847.

Ruth McManus, DCU and Rachel Murphy, UL, produced two articles on how and why they use IHTA Online and the Digital Atlas series in third level education. Ruth's article discusses how the printed [Irish](#)

[Historic Towns Atlas and IHTA used in third-level geography](#). Rachael's article discusses how [GIS and the IHTA can be used in third-level history](#).

Sarah Gearty delivered a lecture on Tim Robinson. 'Unfolding maps: expressing landscape – mapping Dublin' which was part of the International Literature Festival, and was followed by an interview with Sarah afterwards.

Arnold Horner delivered a lecture 'Man, maps and map history: John Andrews, 1927–2019' on YouTube to coincide with the time of the first anniversary of the death of John Andrews. Keith Lilley, QUB, provided a response to Arnold. Over 270 joined for the premiere on YouTube and the lecture has now been viewed over 700 times in the two days since the lecture. You can view the lecture [here](#).

[IHTA no. 30, Dungarvan/Dún Garbhán](#) by John Martin was published on December 3rd with a lecture by the author.

For further information visit www.ihta.ie, follow https://twitter.com/IHTA_RIA or email ihta@ria.ie

GSI Postgraduate and Early Career Researchers Network NEWS

After recently electing a new committee, PECN has been exploring ways in which we can facilitate postgraduate and early network academics. A member from a postgraduate worker's group was invited to talk to the committee about PG worker's rights, and a blog is on the way to spread this information more widely. We also held a well-attended virtual coffee morning with our members to discuss future events or activities we could organise to help our community. In December we rounded off our events for the year with a successful 2-day writing retreat and hope to organise a regular writing group into 2021, along with many other exciting plans! To stay up to date with PECN follow us on Twitter [@GSI_PECN](#) and sign up to our mailing list by emailing us at PECN@geographicalsocietyireland.ie



Some of our PECN members at our coffee morning last month!

TCD Welcomes six geography postgrads in 2020

TCD welcomes the following postgraduate students in 2020 looks forward to watching their progress over their degree:

- Pia Laue, Supervisor: Mary Bourke, Project: Natural Water Retention for floods on Agricultural catchments
- Alexia O'Brien, Supervisor: Cian O'Callaghan, Project: Co-Living in Dublin: Wishful thinking of a promising future.
- Alexander Gaio, Supervisor: Federico Cugurullo, Project: The impact of autonomous vehicles on cycling in cities
- Cian Mc Carroll, Supervisor: Federico Cugurullo, Project: The social dimension of autonomous transport: a focus on time
- Wahaj Habib, Supervisor: John Connolly, Project: Smart Observation of Management Impact on Peatland Function
- Charmaine Cruz, Supervisor: John Connolly, Project: Habitat mapping, assessment and monitoring with high resolution imagery (iHabiMap)

EVENTS

Conference of Irish Geographers 2020/2021

In light of the ongoing public health emergency across Ireland and the wider world, the Geographical Society of Ireland and TCD Department of Geography were forced to postpone the 52nd Conference of Irish Geographers (CIG). However, with the agreement of our colleagues in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, Trinity College Dublin look forward to hosting the conference in May 2021. The organising committee are currently exploring options for a fully online conference. Expect updates on the revised format and updated instructions for registration in the new year.

GSI Awards Ceremony: Doctoral Research Award, Postgraduate Fieldtrip / Travel Awards, and Lifetime Achievement Awards 2020

GSI Annual Awards Ceremony took place online on December 16th. The GSI Doctoral Research Award 2020 went to Dr Shane Conway from NUI Galway for his research 'Exploring the Human Dynamics Affecting the Intergenerational Family Farm Transfer Process in Later Life: A Roadmap for Future Policy'. The awards took place at an online event on December 16th. Runner up candidates included Dr Dean Phelan from Maynooth University for his work 'Making Hui: The Minoritisation, Performance and Place of Islam in Contemporary Beijing' and Dr Jack McCarthy from UCD for his work 'Desire, Anticipation, and Assemblage: an Analysis of Collaborative Agri-environmental Governance on Collectively owned Farmland in Ireland'. The GSI would like to thank the members of the judging panel which included Mary Bourke (TCD), Denis Linehan (UCC) and Ronan Foley (Maynooth University).

At the same event, the GSI fieldwork/travel bursaries were awarded to Benjamin Kwao (TCD) for his project 'Interrogating the Poverty Reduction Impact of Gold Mining at the Community Level in Ghana'

and to Pia Laue (TCD) for her research project 'Attenuating floods with Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) for Agricultural Catchments in Ireland'.

The bursaries will contribute to the additional costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic for Benjamin's fieldwork in Ghana and to assist Pia's fieldwork in Wexford and Cork where research demonstration sites and water sensors are located.

The winner of the GSI Lifetime Contribution Award for 2020 was Professor Joe Brady (UCD). An awards ceremony is planned for 2021.

GSI Webinar Series: HAVEN: The Mediterranean Crisis and Human Security

This year saw the launch of the GSI webinar series, the first of which was delivered by Professor John Morrissey (School of Geography, Archaeology and Irish Studies, National University of Ireland Galway). Drawing critically on the UN concept of 'human security', Professor Morrissey discussed his recent edited collection *Haven: The Mediterranean Crisis and Human Security* which offers a transformative understanding of security in responding to the Mediterranean refugee crisis. From a range of arts, humanities and social science disciplines, and through case studies incorporating key governmental, NGO and refugee perspectives, the book critiques the major geopolitical, economic and social issues of the crisis.

Habitat for Humanity Ireland and Geography at QUB Webinar 'It's A Disaster'

Habitat for Humanity Ireland and Geography at Queen's University Belfast ran a webinar as part of the One World Festival, a festival of events on human rights, international development, diversity and the environment organised by the Coalition of Aid and Development Agencies Northern Ireland (CADA NI). 'It's A Disaster', the webinar, was hosted by broadcaster Sarah Travers and discussed humanitarian disasters, disaster relief and mitigation with Mario Flores and James Schell, leaders from Habitat for Humanity's global disaster response programme. A recording of the event is available [here](#).

QUB Geography celebration of World Soil Day

Queen's University Belfast also celebrated United Nations World Soil Day. Plants nurture a whole world of creatures in the soil, that in return feed and sustain plants, making life possible on Earth. The Earth Project is non-profit organisation promoting sustainable Earth stewardship with links to QUB Geography. They marked the event by sharing a number of interviews with leading experts on soils. This included the World Food Prize Foundation winner Professor Rattan Lal, soil enthusiasts such as Sir Tim Smit, one of the founders of the Eden Project, and QUB Geography's very own expert, Professor Jenny McKinley. You can find more details about World Soil Day and The Earth Project, as well as Jenny's interview, [here](#).

LIT Carbon Connects Webinar

The LIT researchers in collaboration with Freshwater Pearl Mussel Project, IT, Sligo and VHL, Netherlands on July 10th conducted a webinar to provide an overview of the LIT Carbon Connects Project. There were four presenters in this webinar: Dr. Amey S. Tilak from Carbon Connects; Dr. Derek McLoughlin from Freshwater Pearl Mussel Project; Poppy Overy from IT, Sligo and Dr. Jasper van Belle from VHL, Netherlands. This webinar hosted by Dr. Darren Barry of LIT Development Unit and be seen on YouTube [here](#).

MIC Webinar Series: Education, Humanities and Climate Crisis

The MIC Department of Geography, together with colleagues in the faculty of Education, MIC, convened a webinar series on the theme of *Education, Humanities and Climate Crisis* during the Autumn 2020 semester. This series of community facing seminars consisted of short talks from members of the Mary Immaculate College academic community on their work, providing important, multi-disciplinary insights into the human dimensions of climate change. The series focused on positive responses and on addressing the question, 'what we can do'? All sessions can be viewed [here](#).

MIC Conference: Coastal Transitions 2020 - The Blue Economy

The MIC Department of Geography was an organising partner of the conference *Coastal Transitions 2020: The Blue Economy*. Originally planned to take place in Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT, the conference was moved to an online format in view of the unique challenges of 2020. The conference aimed to act as a catalyst to bridge and mobilize emerging knowledge(s) on coastal/marine governance, technology development, and policy practices for transitioning to a Blue Economy. Over 300 delegates engaged in debate and discussion over 4th-8th November 2020. The conference built upon the successful Coastal Transitions Conference in New Haven, Connecticut in March 2017, which led to the publication of the edited volume *Towards Coastal Resilience and Sustainability* (Heidkamp & Morrissey, 2019). Details can be found [here](#).

Public Engagement

Love Geography Campaign

This has been a busy year in terms of promoting geography to wider public audiences. Earlier this year the GSI established a working group to promote geographical education in Ireland, with a particular emphasis on maintaining a presence for Geography in primary and secondary education. As GSI members will be aware, the Save Geography campaign has been running over the past few years in response to the change in Junior Certificate provision for second level students. The campaign has now been renamed Love Geography, as we felt this was a more positive name to use for a number of reasons, including:

- To celebrate the value and use of geography in society as a whole;
- To highlight essential research Geographers lead and take part in;
- To exemplify examples of high quality Geographical learning in schools and early years settings;
- To lobby for the place of Geography in the curriculum at all levels of education.

The main task of the Love Geography group over the past few months has been compiling a response to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) in relation to the proposed Primary Curriculum Framework. The framework outlines a curriculum in which Geography will be reduced in status and time allocation for all primary pupils. It also proposes Geography and History being renamed as Social and Environmental Education in the lower primary school. The Love Geography group had a very positive meeting with the NCCA in November in which they highlighted the value and purpose of Geography in schools and society. They will submit their full response to the proposals in January. If anyone would like to contribute or be a signatory on the response, please contact:

BOURKEM4@tcd.ie or susan.pike@dcu.ie

GeoWeek (Geography Awareness Week)

The Love Geography campaign fed into GeoWeek (Geography Awareness Week) which takes place in the third week in November each year. The theme of this year's GeoWeek was *Celebrating Geography*. Schools around the country demonstrated their passion for the discipline by building weather stations, exploring the varied applications of space satellites, highlighting the wealth of geographical information available on Netflix, holding geographical quizzes based on popular TV shows, and partaking in geographically themed bake offs.

Celebrating Geography - Through the Ages Seminar

As part of the Celebrating Geography GeoWeek Activities, Dr Susan Pike (DCU) and Dr Ruth McManus (DCU) hosted an online seminar 'Geography Through the Ages'. The seminar included presentations by Dr Kathy Reilly, President, Geographical Society of Ireland, Dr Robert Meehan, Consultant Geologist, and Dr Paula Owens, Primary Geography.

Art and Geography Project: Earth Writings

Also, as part of GeoWeek 2020, a new art and geography book, *Earth Writings: Bogs, Forests, Fields and Gardens*, was launched online in association with the Dublin Art Book Fair 2020, the Moore Institute at NUI Galway and Creative Rathangan Meithal. The book is a result of creative conversations between artists based in southwest Ireland and geographers. In November 2019, an [exhibition](#) and [symposium](#) was hosted by the Maynooth Geography Department around the theme of 'Earth Writings: Bogs, Forests, Fields and Gardens', funded by an [Irish Research Council New Foundations STEAM grant](#), organised and curated by Karen Till. Artists Monica de Bath (Kildare Co.), Cathy Fitzgerald (Co Carlow), Pauline O'Connell (Co Kildare) and Seoidín O'Sullivan, exhibited work in the foyer of MU Library, which was launched by the [Tirdhreach Feseach: Irish Environments in Transition](#) symposium featuring short conversations between the artists and Maynooth Geographers Patrick Bresnihan, Gerry Kearns and Karen Till, and NUI Galway honorary geographer Nessa Cronin (School of Archaeology, Geography and Irish Studies). With additional funding from the Creative Ireland, Kildare County Council Arts Service, Maynooth Geography Research Incentive Fund, the arts and geography book and new [EarthWritings.ie](#) webpage was created and launch this November 2020.

The book of creative essays by the artists and academics is richly illustrated with images from the exhibition, and the 2019 artist-geographers conversations and the launch were recorded and are now available as [podcasts](#), and as a [Youtube video](#) on the webpage. Copies are now available for purchase at Charlie Byrne's bookstore in Galway and Temple Bar Art Gallery bookstore (and soon to be available at the Glucksman Gallery). A PDF of the *Earth Writings* is available for all educators and libraries and will be published online next year on the webpage. Contact karen.till@mu.ie for details.

These events testify to the relevance of geography both within and beyond the classroom.

Famine, Floods and Monuments: Geographers reach Wider Public Audiences on National and International Television

For over thirty years the Department of Geography in University College Cork (UCC) has played a distinguished role in disseminating new research on the Great Irish Famine whether through exhibitions, publications, or online projects. As part of that continuing public scholarship remit, RTÉ 1 broadcast *The Hunger* a two-part documentary, narrated by Liam Neeson, to mark the 175th anniversary of the beginning of the Great Irish Famine on 29 November and 7 December 2020. The

documentary was a partnership between RTÉ, UCC and ARTE and is based on the highly acclaimed and award-winning *Atlas of the Great Irish Famine* (2012) edited by John Crowley, W. J. Smyth, and Mike Murphy. The atlas team played a pivotal role as advisors to the series. Episode 1 of the widely acclaimed documentary attracted an audience of 430,000 (32 % of available audience) while episode 2 attracted 400,000 (35.5% of available audience) which are exceptional viewership figures for a historical documentary. Launches in Paris and Berlin are planned for next year while it is envisaged that the documentary will also be released in the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand

Professor Joe Brady and Dr Ruth McManus (DCU) made an appearance on RTE's Building Ireland series on the episode about the Marino Garden Suburb. It proved to be a popular show with 275,000 people tuning in! It was repeated on Friday 13th Nov.

Professor Arlene Crampsie made an appearance on RTE's '10 Things to Know About...' series on the episode about Droughts and Flooding on Monday 30th Nov. She spoke about the Drought Memories Project for which she is the principal investigator.

Teaching Initiatives

Teaching has also been affected by the pandemic. What follows is an overview of how HEIs have responded successfully to the move to online learning, socially distanced classrooms and virtual fieldtrips and continue to deliver geographical education in innovative and relevant ways.

Geography's I Like Beaches project (NUG) has been busy during the current COVID-19 restrictions. It has led 12 'outdoor classroom' events on the beaches of Salthill, with nearly 150 students from 4 local schools learning about beach and dune process, and how these may contribute to climate change adaptation. The socially-distanced activities will continue after the winter break, drawing in a wider range of interested stakeholders as the year progresses. For more information kevin.lynch@nuigalway.ie

Over the autumn semester a small team of students from the University of Limerick (UL) has battled hard against seven other teams from INN, Norway, the University of Joseph KI_ZERBO, Burkina Faso, the Université Matej Bel, Slovakia, the Université Bretagne-Sud, the École Centrale Nantes and SCELVA, France (Service commun d'études des langues vivantes appliquées) to win the Virtual Classroom Environmental Challenge (VEC).

The challenge, open to universities across the globe, was to "find new and innovative ways to promote, connect and improve sustainability of their campus environments" and the UL team used this opportunity to showcase their unique campus through several eco proposals.

Over several rounds, and expertly coached by Masters Students from Rennes 2's Didactiques des Langues program, the UL Geography team presented their research, created a logo and made a video trailer of their ideas for a more environmentally sustainable campus at UL.

Linking with the UL Green Charter and Green Living on Campus, the UL students aim to build an awareness of biodiversity, habitat and sustainability by proposing an app from which students and staff could record and track wildlife on the UL campus. They also conducted a student wildlife and conservation survey which revealed that although 90% of the UL students surveyed had never been actively involved in conservation, 85% were interested in sustaining, encouraging and invigorating wildlife on the UL campus.

Their research also assessed the role of the weekly UL Farmers' Market in local sustainability and proffered suggestions on how UL and other universities could move further towards a reduction of paper consumption and habitat conservation.

The VEC gives students the opportunity to research a topic of significance, provides universities with a fresh avenue for hearing student voices on local environmental issues, and helps to develop peer education in an international context. The lead organiser is Professor Christine Evain, Rennes 2. UL Geography is thrilled at the success of our students, Jacqui Mannix Geoghegan and Maeve McCarthy, in the VEC, and moving forward plan to meet with them to discuss how their suggestions might be made real. For more information contact: Catherine Porter, Lecturer in Geography, University of Limerick.

Geography's civic engagement module (QUB), Geography at Work, was featured in a short film made by QUB's Public Engagement Office. The module gives teams of final year students real world experience in applying their research skills and the knowledge to solve problems that confront society, and gives civic organisations and community groups in the Belfast area an opportunity to tap into the expertise provided by Queen's in addressing local issues. The video focuses on 'Connecting Communities with Green Pathways' and 'Mapping Urban Regeneration in the South Belfast Corridor.', in collaboration with Belfast City Council and Forward South Partnership. The film can be seen [here](#).

As students become increasingly interested in and concerned about climate change, teachers are looking for ways not only to teach about the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but to engage with practices that help to fulfil them. The 5*S project has recently been created to support teachers to do just that. 5*S is a Discover Award from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) which began in January 2020. As its full title shows (*Space, Surveyors, Students, STEM and the Sustainable Development Goals*) scientists, surveyors and educators have come together to share their expertise of earth observation satellites and GIS with teachers and students on the Geography and Science Junior Cycle curriculum. The project is based in Maynooth University (MU). Project leader Dr Conor Cahalane from the Geography Department (MU) is working in association with colleagues from the Education Department (MU), the Technological University (TU) Dublin, Esri Ireland, the Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) and the Society of Chartered Surveyors of Ireland (SCSI) to promote STEM education and careers to students.

5*S outreach has gotten off to a very successful start with 16 different schools all across Ireland having received a 5*S workshop and over 80 student teachers provided with an introduction to GIS and developing StoryMaps to help their own teaching. So if you know of any Junior Cycle Geography teachers interested in teaching about Sustainable Development goals and linking with satellite data to explain curricular concepts to students email us at: 5S.Surveyors@mu.ie for more information or to follow the project [@5S_Discover](#) on Twitter.

Geographers on the Move: New Appointments

Dr Catherine Porter (UL)



In September 2020, UL welcomed a new member of staff, Dr Catherine Porter, tasked with co-developing and delivering a fresh and stimulating Geography subject offering on the BA arts programme at UL. The new course will deliver to students the foundations of Geography alongside offering specialities in digital and spatial research. Catherine, who spent the early part of her academic career in lecturing and research roles at Lancaster University, the University of Hull, Ulster University and Queen's University Belfast, is particularly keen to focus on developing UL's use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in teaching and research and using the digital and spatial humanities to connect the Geography subject area at UL with other Schools, Faculties and institutions across Ireland and the UK. You can keep up to date with how Geography at UL is developing by following the new Twitter account @ULGeog.

Assistant Professor Margaret Jackson (TCD)



Margaret Jackson is a new Assistant Professor in Physical Geography at Trinity College Dublin. A glacial geomorphologist and palaeoclimatologist, her research interests centre on the causes of ice age cycles and abrupt, millennial-scale climate change, and on how changes in the climate system are reflected in glacial landscapes. Her work relies heavily on geochronology, particularly cosmogenic surface-exposure and radiocarbon dating. She has ongoing research projects in Peru, Uganda, Antarctica, Iceland, and in Ireland, and has in the past worked in Greenland and North America. Margaret received her PhD from Dartmouth College (USA) in 2019, and from 2019-2020 was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellow at the National University of Ireland Galway.

Dr Bradley Garrett (UCD)



Bradley Garrett is a social and cultural geographer and began working at University College Dublin in January 2020. Brad is interested in the underground, spatial politics, visual methodologies, and exploration. Previously an archaeologist with the United States Bureau of Land Management, Brad moved to London in 2008 and began sneaking into lost, forgotten and off-limits places in the city, photographing them, and sharing them with the public. His first book, *Explore Everything: Place-Hacking the City*, is an account of his adventures trespassing into ruins, tunnels and skyscrapers in eight different countries with an urban exploration crew called the LCC.

Brad was awarded his PhD in 2012 from Royal Holloway, University of London, where he studied under Tim Cresswell. Prior to joining UCD, Brad worked at Oxford University, the University of Southampton and the University of Sydney. While working at the University of Oxford in 2014/2015, he published *Subterranean London: Cracking the Capital*, a photographic dissection of what lies underneath the streets of London, layer by layer. 2016 marked the release of the final book in his urban exploration

triptych; London Rising: Illicit Photos from the City's Heights, which documents the social, infrastructural and corporate verticalities of the city.

Brad's most recent book, *Bunker: Building for the End Times* (2020), is based on three-years of ethnographic research with 'doomsday preppers' who are building bunkers in anticipation of future disasters. While almost 12 million Americans are preppers, numbers are much lower here. Garrett says the coronavirus will make preppers of us all! He has written for *The Atlantic*, *the Guardian*, *Vox*, and *GQ*, and his research has been featured on media outlets worldwide including the *BBC*, *ABC*, and *National Geographic*.

Dr Darren Clarke (DCU)



Clarke is an environmental geographer with research interests in the social and governance aspects of climate change/environmental change and in environmental psychology. His research has examined social and governance issues related to transformative climate change planning both nationally and internationally. Prior to joining DCU he worked in the public sector as a Researcher with the Local Government Management Agency. In 2020, he led the delivery of the first baseline assessment of the local government sector's climate actions in Ireland. This baseline is now being used to support the local government sector meet its climate change ambitions. Darren also acted as the lead Irish researcher for an EU Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) Climate funded project between 2014-2017 examining transformative solutions to climate change across four European countries. His research interests are varied. Given his interdisciplinary research and teaching background he teaches both physical and social science topics related to climate change/the environment at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. His previous public sector research experience in supporting climate policy development and implementation within the local government sector is something he is keen to build on within the School of History and Geography at DCU.

Dr Tobi Morakinyo (UCD)



Tobi received his bachelor's degree in Meteorology in 2008 at the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria (FUTA) and completed my research master's degree in Meteorology (specialized in Urban climatology) from the same University in 2012. He obtained his PhD at the School of Energy and Environment, the City University of Hong Kong in July 2016 for his research titled "A study on the role of urban green infrastructures on local air quality and thermal comfort: Modelling and Measurements" generously funded by the Postgraduate Studentship of the Hong Kong University Grant Council. Before joining UCD School of Geography, he worked as a Lecturer at the Department of Meteorology and Climate Science, Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria and Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute of Future Cities, the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he led several research projects broadly focusing on implementation strategies of nature-based solutions for climate-sensitive urban planning and design in high-density cities. These projects and others have led to the publication of 20 peer-reviewed articles in top rank international journals including *Building and Environment*, *Energy and Buildings*, *Urban Forestry and Urban Greening*, *Renewable Energy*, *Journal of Environmental Management*, and *Urban Climate*.

Dr Iris Möller (TCD)



Dr Iris Möller received her Ph.D. in Geography 1997, for a doctoral dissertation on ‘Wave attenuation over saltmarsh surfaces’ at the University of Cambridge. After a short spell of working at HR Wallingford Ltd, she joined the University of Cambridge’s Coastal Research Unit as a Research Associate and Deputy Director. Alongside this, she held a College Lectureship in Physical Geography at Fitzwilliam College (2000-2014) and then a University Lectureship in Physical Geography (Coastal Processes) (2014-2019) at the Department of Geography, University of Cambridge. In 2019, she was appointed as Professor of Geography at

Trinity College Dublin and, since January 2020, has been the Head of the Department of Geography there. Prof Möller researches complex shallow coastal environments with a strongly applied focus on improving coastal flood and erosion risk management. Her 2013 true-to-scale experiment on the natural protection provided by salt marsh vegetation has been described by a reviewer as “just mind blowing and the results therefore unique and of incredible importance”. She has over 50 peer-reviewed publications and is currently the Principal Investigator on the [UK NERC-funded RESIST](#) project alongside growing her new research team in Dublin over the course of the next few years.

Dr. Una Murray (NUI Galway)

Dr. Una Murray has recently joined the Geography Department at NUI Galway as a Lecturer in Development Practice. Una has been working in international development since 1995, particularly as a Senior Evaluator. She holds a PhD in International Development from University College Cork and a Master’s degree in Development Studies from the University of East Anglia, UK. Her work has mainly been with the UN, (FAO, UNDP, ILO, UNICEF, IOM) on social inclusion, gender, agriculture, climate change, training and M&E, and she has worked on projects in many countries in Asia and Africa. She has also worked extensively with bilateral development agencies such as Irish Aid and DFID (on social protection and gender equality). Recently in 2019 Una worked with UNDP on a climate change support programme, while this year she has been working with UNICEF on their children on the move in the Horn of Africa programme, and with IOM on the migration and climate nexus. Una previously worked as a Lecturer in International Development at UCC, and has been regularly lecturing on a number of Masters degree programmes at NUI Galway and Maynooth University. She has also lectured in two universities in Ethiopia. Una is on the Board of DOCHAS and SightSavers Ireland, and is a member of the Steering Committee of the Irish Forum for International Agricultural Development (IFIAD).

Dr. John Connolly (TCD)

Dr. John Connolly is The Kinsella Assistant Professor in Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing and leads the Trinity Geospatial Research Group. He joined Trinity College Dublin in September 2020. Prior to this he spent five years at the School of history and Geography in Dublin City University. He also worked in the Department of Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science at Lund University, the Department of Geography in UCC and the School of Biosystems Engineering in UCD. He teaches GIS, remote sensing and environmental geography at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. John's research focuses on the application of GIS and Earth Observation to environmental issues including land use change; landscape carbon dynamics; solar mapping and habitat assessment using EO. He has produced more than 30 journal articles, reports and contributes to policy. He collaborates widely and currently works with colleagues in NUI Galway, DCU, UCD, The Botanical Gardens, Lund University and Boston University. John is a keen mountain biker, rock climber and mountaineer.

Dr Therese Conway (NUI Galway)

In July Dr Therese Conway was appointed as Lecturer Above the Bar to the School of Geography, Archaeology and Irish Studies at NUI Galway. Therese has positioned her research agenda with a focus on the concepts of networks and networking, and in particular their role in rural development, including studies that engage with their role in rural planning, tourism planning and development, niche forms of tourism and community development. She is the Coordinator of the MA Rural Futures Planning and Innovation at NUI Galway and a team member of the RURALIZATION Horizon 2020 Project. She was coordinator (2016-2020) of the BA Social Sciences at NUI Galway. Dr Conway holds a primary degree in Geography and Sociology in University College Cork and a Masters in Planning and Sustainable Development also at UCC (RTPI and IPI Accredited). Therese is a former PRTL14 PhD awardee as part of the Irish Social Sciences Platform (ISSP) and the Whitaker Institute (NUI Galway), Programme of research.

Dr Jessica Crumpton Banks (NUI Galway)

Jess recently completed her PhD at the University of St Andrews, UK, where she worked on the role of the Southern Ocean in atmospheric CO₂ change over glacial timescales. For this she used geochemical proxies in foraminifera, marine calcifiers which record seawater chemistry and temperature in their shells. Jess has recently taken up a post-doc position at the Discipline of Geography, NUI Galway, her work will focus on developing our understanding of these proxies in polar regions and applying them to reconstruct records of past climate change in the Arctic.

Prestigious appointments for Geographers

Professor Jennifer McKinley (QUB) has been elected to the Executive Council (Councillor 2020-2024) for the International Union of Geological Sciences. The International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) has 121 national members, represents over a million geoscientists, and is one of the World's largest scientific organizations. The IUGS in partnership with UNESCO encourages international co-operation and participation in the Earth sciences in relation to human welfare and is a member of the International Science Council (ISC). The new President is Prof John Ludden (UK), new Vice President is Prof Hassina Mouri (South Africa).

Dr Susan Pike (DCU) has been appointed President of the Geographical Association. Susan works in Geography Teacher Education at DCU's Institute of Education, where she has coordinated Geography Education for 20 years. As a geographer, she also contributes to a range of other areas including early childhood education, as well as Masters options in Climate Change Education and Poverty and Social Inclusion in Education. The Geographical Association (GA) is the leading subject association for teachers of geography. Its mission is to further geographical knowledge and understanding through education, with the vision of being a 'vibrant and diverse subject community inspiring high-quality geographical teaching and learning'. From its roots at a meeting to exchange lantern slides 128 years ago, it now has members in more than 60 countries and strong links with geographical organisations around the world. Having a GSI member as president will no doubt increase the visibility of the GSI internationally, and strengthen our links with Geographers and teachers of Geography across varied institutional sectors. Susan's chosen presidential theme this year is 'Compassionate Geographies', clearly a theme that is has relevance on lots of levels.

Associate Professor Gerald Mills (UCD) was appointed as one of 12 technical experts to the World Meteorological Organisation, Study Group on Integrated Urban Services, which will co-lead writing an implementation plan. The goal of the group is to encourage national bodies to integrate thinking at the city level.

Professor Karen Till (Maynooth University) was elected as a Member of the Royal Irish Academy. She is the fifth female geographer to become elected to RIA. A leading international figure in the interdisciplinary field of Memory Studies, her scholarly explorations of place, memory and care include academic publications, curatorial work, creative writing and publicly-engaged collaborations with artists, activists and practitioners. A special thanks to Anna Davies (TCD), Padraig Carmody (TCD) and Nuala Johnson (QUB) for supporting her application.

Irish Geography: Journal Update

Irish Geography has published two issues this year and the twelve core articles and additional contributions cover a wider range of geographical topics, written by both Irish and International scholars. The May Issue, 53-1 contains articles on; a spatial tool for modelling building energy (Buckley et al.); a detailed survey of sustainable futures in family farming (Macken-Walsh et al.); remote sensing as a tool for the modelling of submarine geomorphology (Cahalane et al.); and a systematic review of the literature on ocean plastics (Black et al.). It also includes a substantive review – with a strong geographical lens - of the recent multi-volume Cambridge History of Ireland (Kearns).

The November Issue, 53-2 will shortly be available online. A first substantive article on the predictive modelling of a forest tick (*Ixodes ricinus*) by McDonagh and Holloway notes that such models normally focus on climate change, but their excellent contribution suggests that biotic and biogeographical factors remain as important. In a wide-ranging survey with businesses along the Wild Atlantic Way, Griffin and Dunne identify ongoing perspectives from along a route – generally considered a great tourism success – that identify significant spatial variation in those impacts, both positive and negative. The rest of the issue contains a series of short commentaries on alcohol policy and advertising (Houghton and McInerney) as well as a set of specific articles (linked to an earlier Editorial in 53-1) on how Covid-19 has reshaped Irish geographies in the past year. The selection includes a number of articles linked to health and wellbeing, viz, the role of HIQA in supporting the public health response (Teljeur and Ryan), modelling excess mortality through the RIP.ie data (Dempsey et al.) and preliminary results of a recent green space and Covid-19 survey which is part of a wider international study (Guzman et al.). In addition, Browne provides a sharp piece on how the very intimate effects of the pandemic have a strong embodied component but also explores this from a feminist and queer geographies perspective. Finally, Barron and Emmet note the impact that pandemic lockdowns have had on children's geographies with a particular emphasis on the reduction of access to play spaces and outdoor socialisation. We also include a book review of Paddy Bresnihan's GSI award-winning book, *Transforming the Fisheries* and an obituary by Arnold Horner on J.A.H. Andrews, pre-eminent writer on the histories of cartography in Ireland that celebrates his work and life and the ongoing importance of map-making to the Irish geographical imagination.

We would encourage readers to access, read and cite all of these excellent papers and as Editor, I would like to thank all authors, reviewers and other supporters of the journal for their efforts this year and would additionally like to thank Frank Fahy for his sterling work as a copy-editor on the journal since 2013.

Ronan Foley, Editor

The Geographical Society of Ireland would like to extend its best wishes to all those interested in Geographical knowledge on the island of Ireland and beyond for 2021. For further information on the activities of the society or on membership please see <https://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/>

Thanks also and best wishes to those who provided content for this edition of GeoNews. Please send content for the spring edition to gsi.procomms@gmail.com
