

Geo News

Bimonthly Newsletter of GSI

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Note from the Editor

Fellow Geographers,

This is my first issue as editor of GeoNews, and to mark the occasion I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and layout my perspective on this newsletter.

I must start however by extending my warmest thanks to John Sweeney who along with Adrian Kavanagh (since 2005) brought GeoNews back from abeyance. In deciding whether or not to throw my name in the hat for editor, I must admit I was not fully aware of the sometimes haggard past of GeoNews particularly in recent times. That is until I read *A Short History of GeoNews* (2009) by Dennis Pringle. I would strongly recommend members who might have missed this to have a read¹ - though I doubt that number is very large at all.

Sufficed to say having read Dennis' work, I conclude that GeoNews came very close to complete cessation at the turn of the century. Why then would anyone volunteer to take over as editor given the recent difficulties? Mostly it is because I simply don't know any better: I have been most fortunate in my academic pedigree. I pursued my undergraduate in Geography at UCD 2006-2009, and have been in NUIM after completing an MSc in Physical Geography from UCD and Arizona State University in 2011.

In all that time, Irish Geographers involved in my upbringing are in my view all outstanding individuals who always support the idiom: *for the greater good*. As such, I have always been taught we are all "Irish Geographers" and as such, we need to support one another - I am not, in so asserting this, counter to competition. Competition is fine so long as it is fair, productive and ultimately healthy. But at the end of the day we still need to meet at annual events, discuss work and (just occasionally) perhaps even ask for help from one another: for this reason I see GeoNews as being vital.

¹ Dennis' paper can be downloaded from http://eprints.nuim.ie/2918/1/DP_GeoNews09.pdf

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I agree that as a medium for disseminating news, it might *seem* unfit for purpose; given the fact every Department in Ireland carries its own news section with regular updates.

That being said I do not believe GeoNews has become irrelevant, if anything I believe the opposite is the case. In a time where peer-review articles, big book deals and large chunks of research funding are the name of the game, it is vital we have somewhere to voice opinions, take stock on where we are, to share in stories of success and rally support during difficult times. I think the spirit of this has been captured by the content in this first issue for 2014.

So I am indebted to John and Adrian who together brought GeoNews back from the brink, and oversaw a combined 10 issues published since then. I hope to continue and build on this great work, but as always depend on the contributions of you – the readers.

I am looking forward to my tenure as Editor for GeoNews, in launching my first issue; I would echo the words of past editor Dennis Pringle:

"It would be a shame if GeoNews did become a victim of the changing times. As many people have commented down the years, it provides a remarkable record of the social history of our discipline over the past 30 years."

Paul Alexander
paul.alexander@nuim.ie



46th CIG (2014) Announced

The 46th Conference of Irish Geographers 2014 will take place in University College Dublin hosted by the School of Geography, Planning & Environmental Policy.

The Conference of Irish Geographers is the annual conference of the Geographical Society of Ireland (GSI), in association with the wider geographical community in Ireland. The conference has an established reputation having run continuously since 1968. Since its first meeting, the conference has grown with almost 200 attendees at recent events. Over the years the Conference has played a key role in facilitating networking among the academic, policy and practice communities, and has welcomed international colleagues including Professor David Harvey and Professor Helga Leitner and public figures, such as Robert Fisk, as keynote speakers.

Through a varied programme of paper, poster, workshop and fieldtrip sessions as well as social events, the Conference of Irish Geographers has become an important and enriching part of the annual activities of the GSI. This year's conference theme is *'Revaluating geographic traditions: Exploration and understanding in the urban environment'*.

Preliminary Programme

Thursday May 8th

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 8.30am | Registration opens |
| 9.15-9.30 | Welcome and opening address |
| 9.30-11.00 | Parallel sessions 1 |
| 11.00-11.30 | BREAK |
| 11.30-13.00 | Parallel sessions 2 |
| 13.00-14.30 | LUNCH |
| 14.30-16.00 | Parallel sessions 3 |
| 16.00-16.30 | BREAK |
| 16.30-18.00 | Parallel sessions 4 |
| 19.30-22.00 | Keynote plenary address |
| (followed by reception) | |

Friday May 9th

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 9.15-10.45 | Parallel sessions 5 |
| 10.45-11.15 | BREAK |
| 11.15-12.45 | Parallel sessions 6 |
| 12.45-13.30 | LUNCH |
| 13.30-14.00 | POSTER SESSION |
| 14.00-15.30 | PLENARY session: TBC |
| | |
| 15.30-16.00 | BREAK |
| 16.00-17.30 | Parallel sessions 8 |
| 19.30 | Conference dinner (TBC) |

Saturday May 10th

| | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 9.30-11.00 | Parallel sessions 9 |
| 11.00-11.30 | BREAK |
| 11.30-13.00 | Parallel sessions 10 |
| 13.00-14.00 | LUNCH + GSI AGM |
| 14.30-17.00 | Optional fieldtrip Dublin City Centre |

| Registration type | Fee (€) |
|---|---------|
| Early bird: GSI / AGTI member | 100 |
| Early bird: Non-member | 130 |
| Early bird: Student | 65 |
| After March 28th standard fees apply as follow: | |
| GSI / AGTI member | 120 |
| Non-member | 150 |
| Student | 80 |

Please note that you must have completed registration prior to submitting your abstract as you will be asked for your registration reference number during the submission process.

Important Dates

1. Early Bird Registration 28 March
2. Closing date for submissions 26 June
3. Opening reception 08 May

News, Accommodation and Further Submission details can be found at the **CIG2014 website:** (<http://www.conferenceofirishgeographers.ie/>)

Geography Awareness Week 2013 Success

Ireland's second **Geography Awareness Week (GeoWeek Ireland)** took place from the 18th-22nd of November 2013. The theme for GeoWeek Ireland 2013 was "An Exploration of Water". Our theme contributed to the international Geography Awareness Week theme of Geography and the New Age of Exploration sponsored by the NGS Education Foundation.

Spot light on NUIM Geo-Week 2013

Following upon the success of the first International Geography Awareness in 2012, the Department of Geography in NUI Maynooth was excited to organise a week of events for International Geography Awareness Week. A committee of five, consisting of postgraduates and teaching staff, organised much of the events for the week.

The five committee members were:

- Conor Mc Caffery
- Nichola Salmon
- Shaun Harrigan
- Simon Noone
- Steven Lucas

Activities took place from Monday 18th to Thursday 21st November. The predominant focus for the week was promoting both the discipline and potential career opportunities to second level students, undergraduates and the general public.

Here is a list of the events that took place in NUIM:

Monday 18th Disseminating Geography

Tuesday 19th Futures in Geography

Wednesday 20th General Geography

Thursday 21st Understanding Geography

Over 180 students from Maynooth Post Primary School and Killinarden Community School were invited to attend. There were three two hour sessions across the day. Each session consisted of a general introduction to Geography considering the theme of 'An Exploration of Water'.

Water use: Students took part in an in-class water use investigation using audience response technology. Using a response clicker, each student answered questions on their water use while providing opinion and insight into local and global water use.

Field Trip: Students then took part in a walking trail across campus considering various geographical topics. The field work consisted of students being put into groups while inputting findings and answers to questions posed within a field work diary.

They visited a **Weather Measuring Station** taking note of the readings and comparing them to the day's official Met Éireann forecast and considering the atmosphere's role in the **water cycle**.

Lanyards and Certificates: All students and teachers were given lanyards with the Department and GAW logos. The students were given a certificate of participation.



During the week, members of the Department in NUIM took part in outreach work, visiting schools to discuss their work and the usefulness of studying geography along with promoting greater understanding of geography, study and research options in geography. Professor John Sweeney spoke to students in St. Mary's Secondary School, Naas about water use and climate change. All five of the Geography teachers in the school are graduates of the Department.

In the light of John recently retiring from the Department, he was presented with a framed sculptor thanking him for his contribution to the subject and the significant effort put into helping students over the years.



Well done to all our colleagues in NUIM for a successful end to 2013 – we hope the success continues in 2014!

Update from the CONSENSUS project - NUIG

Colleagues in NUIG have recently launched new media outlets for the CONSENSUS (**CON**sumption **EN**vironment **SUS**tainability) project including an updated webpage, a series of excellent animations along with a new blog, Twitter and Pinterest accounts.



Team

- ✚ Anna Davies – TCD
- ✚ Frances Fahy – NUIG
- ✚ Henrike Rau – NUIG
- ✚ Ruth Doyle – Berkeley
- ✚ Mary Jo Lavelle – NUIG
- ✚ Laura Devaney – TCD
- ✚ Mike Hynes – NUIG
- ✚ Barbara Heisser – NUIG
- ✚ Jessica Pape - TCD

Since 2009, CONSENSUS has been conducting innovative social science research and outreach, engaging over 100,000 members of the public and 100 government, private sector, and civil society stakeholders. This engagement has included collaborative visioning exercises, stakeholder workshops, focus groups and interactive art exhibits. Funded by the STRIVE (Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for the Environment) Programme (administered by the EPA) the project aims to advance knowledge on the following:

- Drivers of and incentives for sustainable behaviour change
- The measurement and evaluation of sustainable household consumption practices
- The links between consumption, health and wellbeing
- The governance of household consumption through institutional practice and participation

This year the project is entering into **Phase II** of CONSENSUS which will build upon the findings of Phase I. It comprises three complementary work-packages:

1. **Lifestyle segmentation profiling** defining key lifestyle profiles in Ireland to enable more effective, targeted interventions for sustainable living
2. **In-Home living labs** will prototype and evaluate technological, social and policy interventions
3. **Mobility biography** mapping will examine mobility milestones (such as the purchase of the first car) and their connections with key events in people's lives (to make recommendations for interventions for sustainable mobility practices).

We would like to congratulate the project members for such an excellent showcase of geographical research and invite our readers to see the Project website for more details: <http://www.consensus.ie/>

CONSENSUS Phase I (2009 – 2013)

Phase One of CONSENSUS (2009-2013) comprised foundational research including an all-Ireland survey on attitudes and actions amongst householders towards sustainable consumption.

It also included analysis of sustainable consumption governing tools and initiatives internationally making recommendations for the Irish context. Our work-packages on home energy, water and food consumption applied participatory backcasting techniques.

These involved stakeholders and citizen-consumers in the design of future visions and action plans for sustainable heating, washing and eating practices. Our mobility research used mixed methods focusing on the potential of teleworking and workplace travel plans to promote sustainable mobility practices.

Geographers and Planning: Some Reflections

By Arnold Horner, Glenageary, Co. Dublin

In this 'decade of anniversaries', where 2013 is dominated by being the centenary of the great Dublin strike, geographers and others may all too easily ignore another significant date. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1963 Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, an initiative that provided the planning framework within which, for better or for worse (and that judgement surely continues to require critical evaluation) the architecture, infrastructure and general physical appearance of modern Ireland has been moulded. In reality, this Act had some fairly straightforward objectives, requiring local authorities to accept the discipline of making a development plan that would set out their medium-term infrastructure priorities within the context of fairly simple land use mappings and zonings. The development plan would then serve also as a control framework providing authorities with the guidelines for regulating both public and private development according to rational, clearly-expressed principles.

From the outset, this major initiative created both expectation and apprehension. Its principles were widely welcomed, and its commitment appeared reinforced when in 1964 the government, with United Nations support, established An Foras Forbartha: the National Institute for Physical Planning and Construction Research as a state-supported institute to help promote good physical planning. This came at a time when many local authorities still lacked full-time planning officers and when planning offices were still so rudimentary that (not for the last time either) outside consultants had to be commissioned to formulate the now-mandatory five-year development plans. Challenging as it was, the new framework appeared to offer seriously positive possibilities for rational environmental management. It would have been hard to foresee that, within 25 years, An Foras Forbartha would have been disbanded by government sleight of hand and that the planning system would be increasingly pressurised by the intense lobbyings of the diverse clientelist interest groups, legitimate and otherwise, that have flourished across a rapidly-developing but loosely-regulated modern Ireland.

From its inception too, the 1963 Act has been highly significant for geography and geographers in Ireland. It was accepted that geography (both as a subject and as a physical condition) was a key component of environmental management, and that a geography training could be a valuable input to the development of the emergent planning profession. From the late 1960s, generations of geographers across Ireland have been attracted to planning as an opportunity for the practical application of some of those key ideas and skills in fieldwork and analysis that were, in the early decades at least, critical to their geography training. Other disciplines have also been important for planning, notably engineering, architecture and economics, but those 'synthesis skills' that their discipline once boasted have made geographers particularly valuable and ensured that a steady flow of graduates sought a career in planning. Even for those not professionally attracted, planning might still exert an indirect influence, as its role (or lack of it in some instances) extended across so many environmental issues.

For these reasons, it behoves academic geographers to continue to relate to and engage with Irish planning, and to maintain a critical appraisal of its operation. Because so much of it is immersed in immediate issues, and so much of it may be viewed through the lenses of particular interest groups, there is a crying need for more dispassionate appraisal, yet it is unfortunately not clear if the limited resources available in professional institutes or academic departments have either the focus, the resources or indeed the motivation to make seriously critical evaluations of many aspects of the planning system. Arguably the links between officialdom and the evaluators have on occasion become unhealthily close. Some of those who in theory might be best qualified to offer clear critiques have almost certainly

had their independence challenged by being the beneficiaries of official grants or by otherwise operating within the system as consultants. Agencies have on occasion also imposed needlessly restrictive controls on the publication and dissemination of research results. Yet the planning system can appear so inadequate for its purpose that it surely needs the most forthright, critical appraisal.

A trenchant article in a recent issue of *Village* magazine (Ian Lumley, 'Fifty years of Irish planning' *Village*, February-March 2013, pp 56-57) has characterised the 1963 Act as leaving 'a legacy of sprawl and dross', claiming that 'its main indulgence is that the term planning and corruption are now interchangeable'. Such an assessment needs to be balanced by a recognition that in some of its objectives the Act and its successors have been reasonably effective. For example development control regulations have usually ensured that estates and other building developments have at least met basic specified standards. The regulation that has been imposed has arguably produced a more attractive and balanced urban design than is seen in the creative chaos of north America. A tantalising 'what if?' question is to speculate on how Ireland might look today had there been no planning legislation over the last fifty years.

That said it does seem evident that, particularly over the last 15-20 years, the planning system has struggled and that in some respects it has more or less collapsed. In his *Village* article, Lumley points out that a quarter of a million 'suburban-style houses' have been built outside towns and villages during the last fifty years. The desecration and trivialisation of the countryside, and the privatisation of roadside views, are among the unedifying consequences of a planning system without backbone. The lack of any seriously-accepted, logically-articulated strategic planning framework is another crucial failure. When a national spatial strategy was finally formulated in 2002 (with some important input from geographers) it was immediately left to wither, being totally ignored in almost all key decision-making.

In these depressing circumstances, the witness and honesty of the academic community should be of particular importance in exploring beyond the make-believe of various lobbyists and spin doctors to analyse Ireland as it really is. The contributions on the <http://irelandafternama.wordpress.com/> site offer some good examples of how some of the less palatable aspects of recent development may be investigated. Yet these studies still touch on only a few of the many issues that might be expected to attract the attention of geographers and academic planners. Data from readily-available desk-based sources often has a huge attraction over the hard graft involved in detailed field work. It remains puzzling that so little attention has been given to the consequences of urban sprawl and to the devastating impact of so much one-off housing. Huge opportunities appear to present themselves, but to find few takers, for case studies that would put hard facts on the scale of land use changes and on the way residential densities have altered in recent decades. Direct studies are needed in addition to those which rather obliquely infer some of the changes from census data.

Some 'big questions' are arguably being ignored, or at best are under-studied, by the current generation of geographers and academic planners. As Ireland lurches through its crisis, new issues are raised and some old ones are revived. The 50th anniversary of the 1963 Act offers a major opportunity to take stock and to attempt a broader, reinvigorated and well-publicised interrogation of the geographical dimensions to Ireland's recent development.

Note from the Editor

Many of our GeoNews readers will be very familiar with Dr. Arnold Horner an Irish Geographer whose career spans an impressive 4 decades. Last year (August 2013) Arnold submitted an article to the then editor of GeoNews Professor John Sweeney entitled *Geographers & Planning: Some Reflections*. However as many of you will know from our October GeoNews, Professor Sweeney has stepped down as editor - as a result of the transition from John to Myself (and moving towards the new bi-monthly format of GeoNews) Dr. Horners article was never disseminated.

I wish to take this opportunity to apologise to Dr. Horner for this error and am pleased to include it in this issue of GeoNews.

Academic Freedom of Speech

By Frank Houghton, Department of Humanities, Limerick Institute of Technology

Against all the odds students and staff in Limerick Institute of Technology managed to hold a vigil on Wednesday 21st November to commemorate the tragic death of Savita Halappanavar. It was against the odds because College authorities refused to allow an email highlighting the event to be sent out to students. They also refused to allow notification of the event appear on electronic notice boards throughout the College. The College authorities even refused to allow posters to be put up promoting the event. Despite this a strong contingent of students came to pay tribute to the loss of Savita Halappanavar. College authorities however then responded by stating that the candle-lit vigil would have to proceed without the candles being lit, as they posed “a health and safety risk” (an odd assessment given the candles were actually safety candles, as used by children in churches, and everyone present was an adult).

As readers are no doubt aware Savita Halappanavar died of septicaemia in University Hospital Galway on 28th October 2012. Praveen Halappanavar, her husband, states that having suffered a day of severe pain and after being told that she was miscarrying Savita asked for a medical termination. Praveen says that this was refused because the foetal heartbeat was still present and they were told, “this is a Catholic country”.

The stance of the College authorities would clearly appear to be in breach of the Institutes of Technology Act, 2006 which states that ‘A college, in performing its functions, shall have the **right and responsibility** to preserve and promote the traditional principles of **academic freedom** in the conduct of its **internal** and external **affairs**’. The Act also states that ‘A member of the academic staff of a college **shall have the freedom**, within the law, in his or her teaching, research and **any other activities either in or outside the college, to question and test received wisdom**, to put forward new ideas and to state controversial or unpopular opinions’

Lisa Scott, Lecturer and Psychologist, who spoke at the event, stated later in a press release that “We will not be silenced. The Irish people voted over twenty years ago to permit abortion in certain circumstances. Women have been ignored. Further attempts to silence us on this issue will only spur us on”. In the same press release Ms Scott noted that this was not the first time that she had experienced this form of attack upon academic freedom, stating that “Something similar happened last year when we organised Limerick’s first Slut Walk”. Ms Scott concluded by saying that given what happened to Savitta, combined with what happened in the College, “perhaps the unlit candles were a poignant reminder and statement of how far we still have to go as a country”.

An active informed democracy is built upon the principles of free speech, debate, action and protest. The Institutes of Technology are currently openly aiming for the ‘prize’ of Technological University status. However, perhaps they are only focussing on the opportunities of such developments. They may need to also focus on the responsibilities towards issues such as academic freedom and an open society that go with truly becoming a third level institution.

Publications in Irish Geography 2012-14

1. Andrews, J. H. (2012). Arnold Horner and the study of Irish cartographic history. *Irish Geography*, 45, 283-288.
2. Barrett, B., Dwyer, E., & Whelan, P. (2012). Sensitivity of spaceborne radar to near-surface soil moisture in grasslands across southern Ireland. *Irish Geography*, 45, 131-149.
3. Boucher, G. (2012). Metropolitan anxieties: on the meaning of the Irish Catholic adventure in Scotland. *Irish Geography*, 45, 111-112.
4. Carroll, B.d.n. E. (2012). Rhetoric of "Buy Irish Food" campaigns: speaking to consumer values to valorise the "local" and exclude "others"? *Irish Geography*, 45, 87-109.
5. Collier, M. J., & Mullins, E. (2012). Potential for longevity of novel genetically modified herbicide-tolerant traits in the Irish landscape. *Irish Geography*, 45, 117-130.
6. Cunningham, N., & Gregory, I. (2012). Religious change in twentieth-century Ireland: a spatial history. *Irish Geography*, 45, 209-233.
7. Doucet, B., & Duignan, E. (2012). Experiencing Dublin's Docklands: perceptions of employment and amenity changes in the Sheriff Street community. *Irish Geography*, 45, 45-65.
8. Duffy, P. J. (2012). Landholding, society and settlement in nineteenth-century Ireland: a historical geographer's perspective. *Irish Geography*, 45, 204-207.
9. Fraser, A. (2012). The new scramble for Africa. *Irish Geography*, 45, 200-202.
10. Gatrell, T. (2013). Daily spatial mobilities: physical and virtual. *Irish Geography*, 1-2.
11. Gearty, S. (2013). Mapping, measurement and metropolis: how land surveyors shaped eighteenth-century Dublin. *Irish Geography*, 1-2.
12. Gilmartin, M. (2013). Changing Ireland, 2000-2012: immigration, emigration and inequality. *Irish Geography*, 1-21.
13. Hartigan, R. (2012). Human encumbrances: political violence and the Great Irish Famine. *Irish Geography*, 45, 292-294.
14. Hegarty, S. (2012). The dry channels at Ballyfoyle, Co. Kilkenny: a relict landscape of subglacial water. *Irish Geography*, 45, 175-197.
15. Higgins, R.n. (2013). Ireland's 1916 rising: explorations of history-making, commemorations & heritage in modern times. *Irish Geography*, 1-2.
16. Houghton, F. (2012). If Maps Could Speak. *Irish Geography*, 45, 296-298.
17. Houghton, F., & Houghton, S. (2013). Exploring imagined therapeutic landscapes: trainee social care practitioners in Ireland. *Irish Geography*, 1-12.
18. Hurtado-Uria, C., Hennessy, D., Shalloo, L., O'Connor, D., & Delaby, L. (2013). Relationships between meteorological data and grass growth over time in the south of Ireland. *Irish Geography*, 1-27.

19. James, K. J. (2012). The Little Big House at Gweedore: inscribing sociality and space in north-west Ireland, 1842-1859. *Irish Geography*, 45, 235-256.
20. Jebb, M. (2013). Nature displaced, nature displayed: order and beauty in botanical gardens. *Irish Geography*, 1-2.
21. Jo Lavelle, M. (2012). Material geographies of household sustainability. *Irish Geography*, 45, 112-115.
22. Kavanagh, A. (2013). The Ashgate research companion to critical geopolitics. *Irish Geography*, 1-2.
23. Keogh, S., Mills, G., & Fealy, R. (2012). The energy budget of the urban surface: two locations in Dublin. *Irish Geography*, 45, 1-23.
24. Lapple, D., & Cullinan, J. (2012). The development and geographic distribution of organic farming in Ireland. *Irish Geography*, 45, 67-85.
25. McCarthy, M. (2012). At the anvil: essays in honour of William J. Smyth. *Irish Geography*, 45, 289-291.
26. McKeown, M., Potito, A. P., & Hickey, K. R. (2012). The long-term temperature record from Markree Observatory, County Sligo, from 1842 to 2011. *Irish Geography*, 45, 257-282.
27. Meredith, D. (2012). Troubled waters: a social and cultural history of Ireland's sea fisheries. *Irish Geography*, 45, 115-116.
28. Mullan, D. (2012). Soil erosion on agricultural land in the north of Ireland: past, present and future potential. *Irish Geography*, 45, 151-174.
29. O'Brien, P. (2012). Castle Caldwell, County Fermanagh: life on a west Ulster estate, 1750-1800. *Irish Geography*, 45, 291-292.
30. O'Connor, B., Dwyer, E., & Cawkwell, F. (2013). The implications of cloud cover for vegetation seasonality monitoring across the island of Ireland using the MERIS Global Vegetation Index (MGVI). *Irish Geography*, 1-25.
31. Rau, H. (2013). Mobilities: new perspectives on transport and society. *Irish Geography*, 1-3.
32. Read, C. (2012). Historical Knowth and its hinterland. *Irish Geography*, 45, 202-204.
33. Roe, H. M. (2012). Lough Swilly: a living landscape. *Irish Geography*, 45, 294-296.
34. Sweeney, J. (2012). Deluge. *Irish Geography*, 45, 199-200.
35. Treacy, J. (2013). Smart methods for environmental externalities: urban planning, environmental health and hygiene in the Netherlands. *Irish Geography*, 1-3.
36. Vega, A. (2012). Accessibility and the local concentration of economic activity: a case study for county Galway. *Irish Geography*, 45, 25-44.
37. Wilson, D., Muller, C., & Renou-Wilson, F. (2013). Carbon emissions and removals from Irish peatlands: present trends and future mitigation measures. *Irish Geography*, 1-23.

Other News and Updates

New GeoNews section on GSI Website and Digitising the entire GeoNews back-catalogue

The GSI website will host additional content highlighted the e-mail version of GeoNews. We will be moving towards bi-monthly editions.

You can get access to GeoNews past issues at the GeoNews section of the GSI website and get news highlights:

www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/geo-news.html

Over the coming year I will attempt to digitise the entire back-catalogue of GeoNews from issue 1 right up to this issue, if this is a project you would like to be involved in please email the editor

(paul.alexander@nuim.ie)

Postgraduate Conference Opportunities in the UK

RGS-IBG Postgraduate Forum Mid-Term Conference 2014
Loughborough University, 14th-15th April 2014
RGS-IBG Annual Conference 2014
London, 27th- 29th August 2014

Call for Content!

We will be sending out bi-monthly updates to all members of the society highlighting what is happening with the society, upcoming events and latest news, If you would like anything featured in the next newsletter please email the editor (paul.alexander@nuim.ie)

We would also encourage members to send in discussion pieces / articles / research highlights for inclusion in GeoNews.

Current Committee, 2013-2014

President 2012-2014:

Dr. Frances Fahy, NUI Galway

Vice-President:

Dr. Gerald Mills, University College Dublin

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Dr. Joanne Rourke, Trinity College Dublin

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