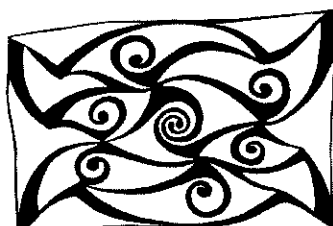


Ulster Place-Name Society

Annual Report & Statement of Accounts

for the financial period 1 September 2018 - 31 August 2019



Address Irish & Celtic Studies
Arts, English and Languages
8 University Square
Queen's University
Belfast, BT7 1NN

E-mail address townlands.upns@gmail.com

Website: www.ulsterplacename.org

TRUSTEES

Officers	Chair: Mícheál Ó Mainín Secretary: Gordon McCoy Treasurer: Dónall Mac Dónaill
Ex Officio Members:	Editor of <i>Ainm</i> : Greg Toner Institute of Irish Studies (Director): Peter Gray Placenames Branch, Dublin (Director): Pádraig Ó Cearbhaill
Ordinary Committee Members	Dónall Ó Baoill Ruairí Ó Bléine Ciarán Ó Duibhín Fionnuala Carson-Williams
Public Relations Officer	Pat McKay

Main Activities

The objectives of the Ulster Place-Name Society are stated in the constitution:

- a) to promote the study of, appreciation of, knowledge of and awareness of place-names in the area of benefit and to publish a series of publications devoted to the field of name studies, including a journal and a bi-annual newsletter.
- b) to carry out research into place-names, promote and support the work of a survey of place-names in the area of benefit and to make the results of the survey available via a series of published volumes and via the internet where appropriate.

Publications

The society published two newsletters during the 2018-2019 financial year and these were distributed to Society members and interested parties (mostly university libraries) and were uploaded onto the Society website.

The Society published Volume XIV of *Ainm* in November 2018. It contains articles on the following subjects: the place-name element *Seimdille* (by Fiachra MacGabhann); the place-name *Ardach* (by Pádraig Ó Cearbhaill); the place-name *Mag nDumái* in Armagh (by Mícheál Ó Máinnín); and Conchubhar Ó Crualaíoch's identification of an inaugural site of the Uí Chinnsalaigh kingdom in Wexford. Reviews of the following publications were published: Vol 1 of Fiachra MacGabhann's 10-volume work on the place-names of Mayo; *An Illustrated Guide to the Place-names of Ulster*; the two-volume *Townland Names of County Wexford*; *The Placenames of Flintshire*; and *Beatha Ailbhe: The Life of Saint Ailbhe of Cashel and Emly*.

Kay Muhr and Liam Ó hAisibéil continued with their work on the forthcoming Oxford University Press publication on the family names of Ireland.

Activities

The *Your Place and Mine* project, which ran from January to March 2019, was initiated by the Causeway Coast and Glens Council as part of their good relations outreach programme. This involved Pat McKay, Kay Muhr and Gordon McCoy giving presentations on place-names, maps, folklore and material from the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* in Cushendun, Ballycastle and Rathlin. Locals corrected or verified their pronunciations of local place-names and contributed a great deal of information.

An innovative part of the project involved encouraging locals to carry out on-line research during the sessions. This approach was used by Gordon in subsequent good relations work in Banbridge High School and St Patrick's Academy.

Pat McKay continued to provide Irish-language versions of road names and townland names for Mid-Ulster Council. He also supplied Irish-language versions of the names of the townlands of the parish of Dromore in Co. Tyrone for a local signage project.

Gordon received a contract from Belfast City Council to create a *Gaelic Map of Belfast*. This will map the townlands of Belfast, other Irish place-names in the council area, and sites of

interest concerning the Irish language. Pat McKay is the place-names consultant for this project.

Gordon is also the planner and tour guide for the *Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast* for Turas, the Irish-language branch of East Belfast Mission. This tour explores all aspects of Gaelic heritage in the area, with a particular emphasis on place-names as they are familiar to locals.

The Society organised two public lectures in Queen's University Belfast. Dr Kevin Murray, of University College Cork, gave a presentation on *Dinnshenchas as an Onomastic Resource* on the 29th of November 2018. Murray is doubtful of the usefulness of the *dinnseanchas* (a corpus of literature recounting the origins of place-names and traditions) in terms of place-names research. He finds the greatest contribution of this material to be in terms of mythology. On the 23rd of May 2019 Richard Warner gave a presentation on the description of Irish places and peoples by Claudius Ptolemy (c 150 AD). Warner's geographical and archaeological interpretations of the material differed from the previous analysis of linguists.

Public Benefit

Members of the Society also made presentations, as listed below. In particular, many of these illustrate the public benefit aspect of the Society's work, as stated in the constitution:

The organisation plays a useful role in promoting cross-community understanding by providing information on the historical influence of the various indigenous languages of Ulster in a harmonious and non-contentious manner.

People from the two main religio-political traditions in Northern Ireland were present at many of the events:

Presenter	Date	Presentation	Venue/Organiser
Kay Muhr	15/9/18	'John Toland and place-names in Inishowen'	Lands of Eogain and Bernician Studies, Clonmany, Donegal.
Pat McKay	17/9/18	'Place-Names and the Irish Language'	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Kay Muhr	17/9/18	'Irish Surnames'	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Gordon McCoy	19/9/18	'The Irish Place-names of Ballymena'	Leighinmore House Hotel, Probus Ballymena
Kay Muhr	28/9/18	Place-name workshop for students involved in 'Education for Mutual Understanding' (EMU)	St Mary's and Stranmillis University Colleges, Belfast
Pat McKay	20/9/18	'The Place-names of the Parishes of Portglenone and Tamlaght O'Crilly'	Portglenone History and Heritage Group

Pat McKay	9/10/18.	'Place-Names of the Blackwater Valley'	O'Neill Country Historical Society, Benburb
Gordon McCoy	3/11/18	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Kay Muhr, Pat McKay, Gordon McCoy	29/1/19	Your Place and Mine	Sheskburn House, Ballycastle
Kay Muhr, Pat McKay, Gordon McCoy	5/2/19	Your Place and Mine	Sheskburn House, Ballycastle
Kay Muhr, Pat McKay, Gordon McCoy	7/2/19	Your Place and Mine	Glenmona House, Cushedun
Gordon McCoy	11/2/19	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Kay Muhr, Pat McKay, Gordon McCoy	22/2/19	Your Place and Mine	Glenmona House, Cushendun
Gordon McCoy	6/3/19 and 13/3/19	Place-names Skills for Schools	Banbridge High and St Patrick's Academy, Banbridge
Kay Muhr, Pat McKay, Gordon McCoy	9/3/19	Your Place and Mine	Richard Branson Centre, Rathlin Island
Gordon McCoy	16/3/19	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Kay Muhr	28/3/19	'The origin of (Maghera) Townland and other Local Place-Names'	Maghera Heritage Project, & Maghera Historical Society: Maghera, Derry.
Gordon McCoy	22/4/19	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Kay Muhr	26/4/19	'The Function of Names in Gaelic Storytelling'	Dept of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic in Cambridge
Gordon McCoy	15/6/19	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Gordon McCoy	6/7/19	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast
Gordon McCoy	3/8/19	Gaelic Bus Tour of East Belfast	Turas Project, Skainos Centre, Belfast

Membership

The Society had 68 members at the time of its AGM in 29th November 2019. The majority of members were individuals living in Northern Ireland, although there were members in

Finland, Denmark and Australia. Three organisations had corporate membership of the Society.

Members received a copy of the bi-annual newsletter as soon as it was published. Members contactable by email also received news of events which may have been of interest to them.

Relationship with other Organisations

The society is a member of the Federation for Ulster Local Studies (FULS). This is a valuable relationship, as FULS promotes UPNS events and provides UPNS with details of events which may be of interest to our members. FULS also makes the UPNS aware of legislation and events related to charities and voluntary organisations in Northern Ireland.

The UPNS has a close relationship with the Northern Ireland Place-Name Project (NIPNP), the professional body established in Queen's University, Belfast. The director of the NIPNP, Mícheál Ó Mainnín, who is heavily involved in expanding the organisation's townland research, is also the chair of the UPNS. The website of the UPNS www.ulsterplacename.org carries the results of the NIPNP Street and Road Name Project, which provided local authorities with Irish language versions of street and road names. The chair of the UPNS is also a member of An Coiste Logainmneacha ('The Place-names Committee'), the body established by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to advise the minister on place-names policy.

Ulster Place-Name Society

Annual Income and Expenditure Statement for the financial year 1 Sept 2018- 31 August 2019

Income and Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
Income		
Subscriptions	682.73	
Publications (Sales)	353.84	
Cumann Gaelach na hEaglaise (2017-18)	300.00	
Fóras na Gaeilge	600.00	*
Bank Interest	15.40	
Total Income	1951.97	
Expenditure		
Web Services (2015-16)		100.00
Web Services		216.00
Postage & Stationery (2017-18)		22.10
Postage & Stationery		25.50
FULS		100.00
Meeting Expenditure - May 2018		124.60
Ainm XIV 2018		2977.97
Bank Charges		0.00
Total Expenditure		3566.17
Net Change		-1614.20

Annual Net Asset Statement	Aug 31. 2016	Aug 31. 2017	Aug 31. 2018	Aug 31. 2019
Ulster Bank C/A	1839.58	1095.70	76.76	910.12
UB Business Reserve	9979.69	9277.55	10201.13	7753.57
Total Cash	11819.27	10373.25	10277.89	8663.69
Change on previous year		-1446.02	-95.36	-1614.20



IFUT

Irish Federation of University Teachers
Cónaidhm Éireannach na Múinteoirí Ollscoile

11 Merrion Square

Dublin 2

Ph: 01 661 0910

E-mail: generalsecretary@ifut.ie

www.ifut.ie

Sept. 1st, 2018 to Aug. 31st, 2019

I have examined the books and records of the Ulster Place-Name Society for the year ended 31st August 2019 and, in my opinion, the Annual Financial Statement produced is a true and fair summary of the receipts and payments for the year and of the financial position at the year-end, and accurately reflects the records of the Charity.

Signed:

Hugh Gibbons

Prof. Hugh Gibbons (Retired), hugh.gibbons@cs.tcd.ie

President of IFUT (2008-2010)

c/o School of Computer Science and Statistics,

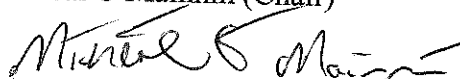
Trinity College,


Dublin 2

Date: 27 November 2019

Cónaidhm Éireannach na Múinteoirí Ollscoile
11 Cearnóg Mhuirfean
Áth Cliath 2

This report was presented to and approved by the membership at the AGM.

Signed Mícheál Ó Mainnín (Chair) Date: 28/11/19


Gordon McCoy (Secretary) Date: 28/11/19


Dónall Mac Dónaill (Treasurer) Date: 28/11/19
