

IRISH GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY

Honorary Chairperson's Report

AGM 22nd April 2017

2016 was a significant year for the IGRS, being the 80th anniversary of the Society's founding. As you have heard from our honorary secretary's report, it was also a year filled with change and activities for the Ireland Branch.

At the AGM last year, the first held outside Dublin for many years, I was delighted and honoured to elect the new chairperson. We also saw a change of secretary and treasurer. This new team, backed ably by the pre-existing committee and outgoing named officers has worked very well together.

I would particularly like to thank the committee for their excellent input and hard work at all our events and meetings during the year. Everyone involved in running the IGRS gives their time freely and I know the members will join with me in appreciation of this volunteer work. If any members feel they would be able to give the Society some time, we will have a number of transcription projects coming up as well as needing volunteers to help run our stand at Back to Our Past in October.

2017 is also an anniversary year. The Ireland Branch was founded 50 years ago in 1967. Our programme for the coming year includes our usual events such as the upcoming Open Day on 20th May, featuring 3 short and 3 long lectures on a variety of topics here at the library in Pearse St. We are also introducing a summer lecture on 7th June, when IGRS member Bob Frewen will discuss his ancestor James Franklin Fuller, the noted architect of Kylemore Abbey, who was also an amateur genealogist if not the most scrupulous fact checker!

Finally, I would like to remind members to look at our website, www.irishancestors.ie on a regular basis. We recently launched the first tranche of stories from our 80th anniversary archive project and they make for fascinating reading. Later in the year, the site will undergo a redesign but I'll tell you more about that on our Open Day, when I hope to demonstrate the new features.

Claire Bradley

Honorary Chairperson

Ireland Branch