

Cumann Jeinealais na hÉireann

"Cuimhnigí ar Ár Sinnsir—Remember Our Ancestors"

Ireland's Genealogical Gazette

(incorporating "The Genie Gazette")

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www.familyhistory.ie

October : Deireadh Fómhair 2017

"Family History Month"

The month of October was designated by the US Senate as "Family History Month" in 2001 and now most genealogical organisations and public libraries in the United States and, even in Canada, organise special family history events during this month.

US Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah who introduced the resolution (S. Res. 160) on September 26th 2001 to designate October as "Family History Month" maintains that "researching ancestry is a very important component of identity. And with more than 80 million Americans actively searching for more information about their ancestors, family history research has become our nation's second-most popular hobby".

Senator Hatch advised the US Senate that October had already been designated by the National Genealogical Society (USA) as "Family History Month" and by 2001, that many states had issued proclamations declaring such in their our jurisdictions.

A similar initiative was adopted by the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO), although their "National Family History Month" falls in August each year.

A dedicated website for the Australasian event states that "family history and genealogy is (sic) one of the most popular hobbies around the world. There are over 250,000 Australians who are members of family history related organisations and the month has broad appeal across Australia. Libraries, archives and other organisations also participate in National Family History Month."

The Irish government could do well to designate a "Family History Month" to promote an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our genealogical heritage. This designation could encourage Irish based organisations and groups to establish and maintain collaborative heritage projects with similar groups overseas. These connections could possibly explore the potential of philanthropy as a resource to fund major heritage projects in Ireland.

The latter point has been highlighted recently in 'An Invitation to Innovate—Local Government & Philanthropists—Shaping a New Funding Model' an excellent publication by cooperatingireland.org advocating an All-Island Philanthropy Strategy.

A nationwide philanthropy strategy could greatly assist heritage organisations with a registered charitable status, like this Society, to provide for expanded services and an increased public accessibility to such heritage, educational and/or cultural resources.

This month in Ireland we have the ever popular 'Back To Our Past' event at the RDS from October 20th to 22nd, at which, the Society will have its usual stand promoting genealogy, heraldry and vexillology. Genetic Genealogy Ireland will also host a number of lectures at the event, including one on the 'Irish DNA Atlas Project' by Edmund Gilbert of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Please call by the GSI Stand to meet Eddie Gahan and his team.





www.cooperatingireland.org

Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 10 October-20.00hrs

Tuesday 14 November-20.00hrs

Royal Marine Hotel Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Wednesday 25 October—10.30hrs

Wednesday 22 November—10.30hrs

Contribution €3.00 p.p. (including Tea/Coffee at the Morning Meeting) GENEALOGY HERALDRY VEXILLOLOGY SOCIAL HISTORY Heritage Matters Book Reviews Open Meetings News & Events

BTOP & Social Inclusion Week

Eddie Gahan, MGSI, Director of the Society's Outreach Programme and his team have a very busy month ahead with the 'Back to Our Past' event and the DLR Social Inclusion Week. (www.dlrcoco.ie) In the meantime, Eddie wishes to sincerely thank all the volunteers who assisted with the recent event organised by the Sutton Active Retirement Group and to thank the Group for the kind and generous donation to the Society.

The Society's new facility in Loughlinstown will be open to the public from 10.30hrs to 16.30hrs each Wednesday and from 14.00hrs to 16.30hrs each Saturday from October 14th. Hopefully, very shortly on other days depending on volunteers.

For directions and map see page 4 of this newsletter and the map on the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

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YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?

If you are thinking of starting your family history research and just don't know where to start, don't despair as Eddie Gahan and his team are on hand to show you the ropes at the GSI Archive & Researcher Centre. Although, the Society does not undertake commercial research assignments, it does provide research advice to enable you to take a D.I.Y. approach to your research.

Also, Eddie and his team travel around the country promoting the study of genealogy. For more info. on the Outreach Programme contact eddie gahan snr@hotmail.com



An Daonchartlann at the DLR Loughlinstown Leisure Centre

Maynooth Studies in Local History nos. 130 & 133

Castle Hyde: the changing fortunes of an Irish country house' by **Terence Dooley** (ISBN: 978-1-84682-643-6 : 62pp : P/bk : Web Price 68.95) Possibly more widely known since its purchase and restoration by Michael Flatley of Riverdance fame, Castle Hyde, is one of the most important surviving country houses in Munster, many others having been lost during the War of Independence 1919-21 and Civil War 1922-23.



This book explores the history of this country residence from the heyday of the Anglo-Irish landed class when, according to the author, "great architectural piles symbolized wealth, social standing and political power" in an Ireland that has been described as "the Irish Raj" with its colonial elites, tenant farmers and peasantry. Professor Dooley examines the impact that the Great Famine had on the Hyde family's fortunes which forced them to sell the mansion, a sale he says was "characterised by skulduggery and intrigue" – broken into thirty -four lots for sale under the Encumbered Estates Acts of 1848 and 1849. It was a "buyers-market" where purchasers knew that landlords couldn't hold out for the best price. Castle Hyde was purchased in 1937 by Henry Laughlin, an American publishing tycoon who first stayed in the house a decade earlier. He turned it into a social hub where American authors, academics, statesmen, entertainers, and even the Boston Symphonic Orchestra gathered in the dues for the 1920s to the 1980s. Following the death of Laughlin and the sale of the house, Castle Hyde fell into near ruin to be saved by Flatley's investment in the property.

'The eighteenth-century landscape of Stradbally Hall, Co. Laois' by **Clair McDonald** (ISBN: 978-1-84682-646-7:69pp: P/bk : Web Price (8.95) Like Castle Hyde above, Stradbally Hall was built "to convey messages of power, rank, authority and taste" in an Anglo-Irish landed gentry 'high society' of eighteenth century Ireland. Ms. McDonald explores the perspective of four diverse groups within this society, the landed gentry as owners of the vast estates, their tenants and subtenants and then the observers,

gentry as owners of the vast estates, their tenants and subtenants and then the observers, visitors to the estates and the cartographers employed to record and delineate the estates for various purposes.

This book is the story of the Cosby family who have lived on the lands at Stradbally, Co. Laois, since 1563 on the confiscated lands of the Gaelic sept of O'More (Ó Mórdha – the leading sept of the "seven septs of Laois") and more especially, from the building of the Georgian mansion in the 1740s and the development of landscape in the environs of the village of Stradbally. The author provides a "near textbook case study" for local historians seeking to interpret a landscape in pursuit of its social narrative. The interrogation of the various maps of the estate and the purposes for which they were commissioned will be of immense interest to all with ancestral connections to this part of County Laois where the descendants of the Cosby and O'More families continue to live today.



FOUR COURTS PRESS

Irish History, Genealogy, Local History and much more. Checkout the 2017 catalogue and the special offers at www.fourcourtspress.ie

Articles Wanted for GSI Journal 2018

The Society publishes an annual Journal (JGSI) in March of each year containing articles on genealogy, heraldry and very occasionally, on vexillology—the study of flags and banners.

The articles are mostly written by our Members



on matters of their own research, which includes, family histories, biographies, historical events or movements connected to family members.

The latter could be international or local events of historical or cultural interest, for example, articles on participants in foreign

wars and revolutions at home or abroad or indeed, contributions made to science, education, culture or whatever by members of the Irish diaspora.

Other articles are usually on resources for genealogical research, for example, parish, school, club or burial registers, normally with extracts and information on their location and public accessibility.

It has often been said that "there is a book in everyone" - well, that may be taking it too far, but certainly there's an article in everyone and especially, those involved in genealogical or local historical research.

The benefits of publishing your own research in the JGSI are many, including preserving your research for future generations, sharing your work with others and, of course, adding to the worldwide corpus on the history and genealogy of the Irish people, their ancestors, their descendants and their wider community connections across the globe. Irish genealogy is becoming increasing diverse and wonderfully so.

Articles can be of various lengths and include photographs, maps and drawings. The Editor of the JGSI, Tom Conlon, is on hand to assist and to advise on layout. The only thing we ask is that the work be your own or that you have verifiable permission from the author to publish the article. Please contact Tom on web@familyhistory.ie

Wicklow's Past

'Footsteps through Wicklow's Past – a History of Wicklow Town and its environs from the Earliest Times to the end of the Civil War and beyond' by John Finlay, published by himself.

Wicklow Town resident John Finlay is a long time local historian, chairperson of the Wicklow Historical Society, and a regular contributor to the Society's annual journal which appears every year in June.

In this book John Finlay provides the reader with a fascinating overview of the history of this town, the county town for County Wicklow, from the earliest times to beyond the end the of the Civil War. Individual chapters he covers development and history of Wicklow Port, Wicklow Gaol which is a leading tourist attraction, the 1798 Rebellion not forgetting the many leaders and local personalities, the growth of the town during the 19th century, the affect of the Famine on the town, and the arrival of the railway.

Wicklow town's rich maritime history is covered with chapters on Captain Robert Halpin, Wicklow's most famous mariner from the Victorian era, the Coastguard Service and of course the R.N.L.I. The role and contribution to education by the Dominican Sisters and he De Salle Brothers is acknowledged while extensive coverage is devoted to 'Wicklow During the Troubles' which spans the key events between 1916 and 1923.

Three excellent addendums cover 'Wicklow's Church's – Past & Present', 'Wicklow's Oldest Buildings and most famous ruins', concluding with a 'Pictorial Stroll through Wicklow's Past' featuring numerous images from the past to the present time.

All-in-all, a really excellent history of this premier County Wicklow Town – copies will be available at monthly meetings of the Wicklow Historical Society which resume at the end of October, or from Bridge Street Books, Bridge Street, Wicklow Town. James Scannell

DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY

The six month temporary closure and the associated relocation costs have been a heavy burden on the finances of the Society, a registered charity in Ireland.

Attendance at events at home and overseas is also a very costly but hugely important part of the Society's 'Outreach Programme'' of ongoing public education on matters genealogical, vexillological and heraldic. See the piece on page 3 - 'What does the GSI do?' - we do quite a lot!



The Board is now considering options for fund raising and grant applications. In the meantime it was decided to appeal to our

Members and friends for help in defraying these exceptional costs.

Donations can be made on-line via the Society's website or by cheque payable to the *Genealogical Society of Ireland* and sent to: Mr. Billy Saunderson, Director of Finance, GSI, "Suzkar", Killiney Avenue, Killiney, Co. Dublin, A96 CR60, Ireland.

The Board would like to sincerely thank the Members and friends of the Society who have already donated. *Many Thanks!*

In Brief.... GSI MEMBERSHIP

Join this Society on-line at www.familyhistory.ie Please note that GSI Membership is open to all interested in genealogy and related sub-jects. Discounted membership rates available for under 25s and students at recognised genealogy courses.

PARKING AT DFEI

PARKING AT DFE1 Car-parking facilities at the **Dún Laoghai-re Further Education Institute**. The best option is to use public transport. Dublin Bus nos. 7, 7A, 46A and 75 all serve the college or streets adjacent to the college— Lower George's Street, York Road, Clar-ence Street. The DART (suburban rail) services to Salthill & Monkstown. On street car-parking is usually available in the area also. Members are asked to con-sider 'car pooling' for each month's open meeting. For details on the Institute and its courses please checkout www.dfei.ie courses please checkout www.dfei.ie

DISCOUNTS

Exclusive discounts for the Members of the Society are available for online genealogical services and publica-tions, including, Findmypast, Irish Newspaper Archives, Forces War **Records** and from **Flatcapsandbon-nets.com**. To avail of any of these Member discounts, please contact **Barry O'Connor, FGSI**, by email at membership@familyhistory.ie

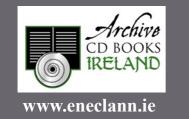
IDEAL GIFT IDEAS

Genealogists and local historians are relatively easy souls to please when it comes to gifts—books! So if you have a birthday gift to buy—think books by our Members. Much of the research for these books was under-taken at the Society's Archive & Research Centre—An Daonchartlann.

'Victorian Dún Laoghaire' by Tom Conlon-excellent local history of the town and the first to deal extensively with the poor and "the courts" where they lived. Price: €20.00

***Labour in Kingstown, 1890-1920**^{*} by Charlie Callan—explores a much neglected subject—the working class of Kingstown (now Dún Laoghaire and the development of organised labour and its political representation. Price: €10.00 (published privately contact: chascallan@gmail.com)

'Twice Built—The Construction of St. Patrick's Church, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, 1861-66' by Tom Conlon. An intriguing story of "church politics" surrounding the building of a parish church in Dublin. Price \in 12.00





GSI Archival Collections soon to be available in a new premises at Loughlinstown

JAMES SCANNELL REPORTS...

THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY

At 18.00hrs on Wednesday 11 October John Fitzgerald, will present his lecture 'The Kearney hangings at Bohernabreena, 1815' in Dublin City Library & Archive, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All welcome - admission free. At 18.00hrs on Wednesday 25 October Vincent Ruddy will present his lecture 'Pre-Famine Dublin: a calamity waiting to happen?' in the same venue. All welcome – admission free. At 18.00hrs on Wednesday 8 November Mary O'Connell will present her lecture 'From Meath of the Pastures to Smithfield: A story of a Cattle Market and a Family Who Lived There' in the same venue. All welcome - admission free.

LEOPARDSTOWN PARK HOSPITAL

At 20.00hrs on Tuesday 17 October Dr. Eoin Kinsella will present his Kınsella will present his lecture on 'Leopardstown Park Hospital, 1917 – 2017' to the Foxrock Local History Club in the Foxrock Pastoral Centre located at the rere of Foxrock R.C. Church. Brian Mac Aongusa will give a short talk on 'Viking influences around us'. All welcome – admission €5.00

DÚN LAOGHAIRE HARBOUR

At 20.00hrs on Wednesday 18 October Cormac Lowth will present his lecture 'The History of Dún Laoghaire Harbour, 1817 - 2017' to the Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission €3.50.

BRAY CUALANN

At 20.00hrs on Thursday 19 October Vandra Costello will present her lecture 'Irish demesne landscapes, 1660 - 1740' in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray Library, Co. Wicklow. All welcome – members free, visitors €5.00

WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

At 14.30hrs on Saturday 21 October Marcin Hasik will speak on 'The Blue Army on the Western Front, 1917-1918' in the lecture theatre of the Museum of Decorative Arts and History, Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7. All welcome – donation of €3.00 appreciated.

MEDIEVAL MASONS

At 20.00hrs on Wednesday 1 November Jason Bolton will present his lecture 'Early Medieval Masons in Rathdown' to the Rathmichael Historical Society in Rathmichael National School, Stonebridge Road (Dublin Road end), Shankill, Co. Dublin. All welcome – admission €4.00

LITTLE RIVERS

At 20.00hrs on Thursday 2 November Brian Hollinshead will present his lecture 'The ; the forgotten Irish who changed the face of Latin America' to the Mount Merrion Historical Society in the Mount Merrion Community Centre,

North Avenue, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin. All welcome – admission €4.00/Students €2.00

GSI Lecture Programme

On Tuesday October 10th the topic will be 'DMP Casualties during the War of Independence -Part Three' by James Scannell

On Tuesday November 14th the topic will be 'irishgenealogy.ie—a National Treasure' by Tadhg O'Shea

On Tuesday December 12th the topic will be 'Finding Women in the Sources' by Fiona Fitzsimons.

Please note the advice regarding 'Parking at DFEI' on panel to the left on this page. We welcome your comments on the lecture programme. Please email Tony O'Hara, MGSI, Director, GSI Lecture Programme at toharadsl@gmail.com

WHAT DOES THE GSI DO?

The Society's objective is to promote an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our genealogical, heraldic and vexillological heritage at home and overseas amongst our diaspora.

We are widely acclaimed as being the most active voluntary genealogical organisation in Ireland hosting Monthly Lectures each month throughout the year and eleven Morning Open Meetings from January to November each year. These are open to the public- everyone is welcome!

We publish a Monthly Newsletter, Annual Journal, operates an Archive and Research Centre and promote genealogy, heraldry and vexillology at events around Ireland through our very active 'Outreach Programme' offering 'Free Family History Advice' to the public, active retirement groups, ladies' clubs and all sorts of community groups.

We have two 'specialist branches' one for heraldry and the other for vexillology (flags)-the only organisation in Ireland promoting this aspect of our cultural heritage. We promote Ireland and Irish heritage at events overseas and we maintain a very active on-line presence promoting sustainable contacts with our diaspora.

We also campaign to obtain better public access to our genealogical heritage and records held by the State or other agencies.

However, as a registered charity, none of the above would be possible without the generosity of our Members who, through their Annual Subscriptions and volunteerism, provide these services all throughout the year.

PLEASE help us to do more by joining the Society-new Members always welcome or by making a donation, no matter how small, to the Societyplease see page 2 of this newsletter. Many thanks!

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS by John Grenham, MA, MAPGI, FIGRS, FGSI The Society strongly recommends to anyone embarking on their family history quest that one essential piece of kit must be, without doubt, a copy of the latest edition of 'Tracing Your Irish Ancestors'. Please checkout the website www.gillmacmillan.com Price €22.99 [RRP].

Précis of the September Lecture

'Some residents of Killarney Road, Bray' by Brian White. Brian kicked off this lecture with a small quiz about Bray. One question stood out and it was "What was the only Irish sport played at the Olympic Games"? This set the mood of a very interesting lecture on Tuesday evening 12th September in Dún Laoghaire.

Brian outlined how Killarney Road evolved over time using a map from 1762 showing the landowners at the time. Over the length of the project Brian and his team drew up over 140 family trees of the people involved in Killarney Road. In the 1970's the building boom started and what was a very rural area soon became a suburban area with many new housing estates. These estates retained the names of old areas like Kilbride, Fairyhill, Ardmore, and Oldcourt, to name a few. Brian showed us old photos of the town hall in Bray which was built in 1884 at a cost of £5,000 by the Earl of Meath. Brian also tells us that it was well ahead of its time as it was designated as a no smoking building in 1886.

Ireland's first chief Justice and Attorney General, Hugh Kennedy, lived in Bellevue which boasted seven bedrooms with gas and Vartry water throughout. Brian told us that there were two film studios in this area namely Ardmore Studio with Emmet Dalton as its first director and was previously occupied by Judge Thomas Langlois Lefroy. The other studio was Silverpine Studios which is now a Coptic church. The house Fairyhill was notable in that it was the childhood home of former Taoiseach, Garret Fitzgerald.

Using press cuttings, Brian also compared the prices of foreign travel to exotic destinations like Malaga and Costa del Sol, to the price of electrical household goods like colour TV and dishwashers. The illustrations showed just how expensive it was back in the days of Bray Travel, which had its HQ in St Helen's House. Killarney Road. and ceased trading in 1980.

All in all, we heard many intriguing stories from Brian about the residents of this very long and historical road. By the way, the Irish sport played at the 1908 London Olympics was cycle polo and incidentally, the referee was Percy French. There were many questions from interested parties after the lecture and this lecture can be accessed on line by visiting our website where it and many more lectures are available to view and enjoy. Many thanks Brian. *Tony O'Hara, MGSI*

Checkout the Society's website www.familyhistory.ie

AN DAONCHARTLANN IN LOUGHLINSTOWN

Travel Information for visitors to the An Daonchartlann, Loughlinstown Leisure Centre, Loughlinstown Drice, Loughlinstow, Co. Dublin, A96 XP60.

DART & DUBLIN BUS— Dún Laoghaire DART Station—Bus 111 & 7A from Crofton Road, Bus Stop no. 2036 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222

LUAS & DUBLIN BUS—Bride's Glen (Green Line) - Bus 111 from outside the Luas station, Bus Stop no. 7639 to Loughlinstown Park, Bus Stop no. 3222

DUBLIN BUS from City Centre—O'Connell Bridge, Bus Stop no. 273 or Nassau Street, Bus Stop no. 405—Bus 7A to Loughlinstown Park, Bus stop no. 3222

DRIVING— From the M50 - at Junction 16 follow the signs for Loughlinstown. Straight on through the Cherrywood roundabout, and over the N11 flyover. At the second traffic lights beyond the flyover on Wyattville Road turn right into Loughlinstown Drive. Follow this twisty road for about 1km to Loughlinstown Leisure Centre (very large buildings on right). GSI is behind these buildings. From N11 southwards - after Cabinteely junction, and Topaz garage move to left lane and exit left to Wyattville Road. At the second traffic lights on Wyattville Road, turn right into Loughlinstown Drive and follow as above. Checkout www.dlrleisure.ie/Loughlinstown

Mobile Phone Offer for GSI Members



The GSI arranges various discounted products for its Members. The Board has agreed to make the following available in conjunction with THREE. The two options are as follows:

e.ie 1. The price plan is NOW only €28.91 includ-In the plan you get the following

- ing VAT. In the plan you get the following calls, texts.
- <u>Unlimited</u> calls to any Irish mobile network.
- <u>Unlimited</u> texts to any Irish mobile network.
- <u>Unlimited</u> calls to Irish landlines.
- <u>5GB of internet data.</u>
- <u>100 international minutes and 100 interna-</u> tional texts.

This plan is a 24 month contract and would come with a **FREE SMART PHONE**—Samsung Galaxy J3 2016 or a HTC Desire 530.

Another option is a **SIM ONLY** offer which consists of.....

2. The price plan is NOW only \notin 19.99 including VAT. In the plan you get the following calls, texts.

- <u>Unlimited</u> calls to any Irish mobile network.
- <u>Unlimited</u> texts to any Irish mobile network.
- <u>Unlimited</u> calls to Irish landlines.
- 5GB of internet data.
- <u>100 international minutes and 100</u> international texts.

This plan is an 18 month contract.

If you would like to avail of either of the above offers please contact **NICOLE DUFF** at <u>nicole@threegovstaff.com</u> or by phone on 01.687 6013.

Please Note: Your current membership of the Society will be subsequently verified to THREE by the GSI Director of Membership Services in accordance with *RES: 17/04/1302*

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The Society is a Nominating Body for Seanad Éireann (Irish Senate)

Board of Directors 2017-2018

Gerry Hayden (Cathaoirleach : Chairperson); Tony O'Hara (Leas-Chathaoirleach : Vice-Chairperson, Lecture Programme); Michael Merrigan (General Secretary, Company Secretary, 'Gazette' Editor, RF:- Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Vexillological and Heraldic Services, and Irish DNA Atlas); Billy Saunderson (Finance and pro tem An Daonchartlann Foundation, Philanthropy); Eddie Gahan (Outreach Programme, GSI Exhibitions); Tom Conlon (Internet Services, Sales and Marketing, and the Annual Journal); Barry O'Connor (Membership Services & Cemetery Projects); Séamus Moriarty (Building and Utilities, Health and Safety Officer); Lua Ó Scolaí (Archival Services, RF:- Education Services)

"HALL'S INDEX"

The "Gazette" is Ireland's longest running monthly genealogical newsletter and it is read by thousands each month around the world. All the past issues of this newsletter and its predecessor back to 1996 have been fully indexed by the late **Brendan Hall, MGSI** and they are available in pdf format to read or to download *free of charge* on www.familyhistory.ie

Although we're not members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ), the team at the "Gazette" always endeavour to operate in accordance with the NUJ Code of Conduct www.nuj.org.uk/about/nuj-code/ and in line with the 'National Policy Statement on Ensuring Research Integrity in Ireland' which was endorsed by the Genealogical Society of Ireland back in June 2014 soon after its launch at the Royal Irish Academy. (see the June 2014 issue at www.familyhistory.ie)

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE

An Daonchartlann, the Society's Archive and Research Centre is now located at the DLR Loughlinistown, Co. Dublin. The new premises is well served by public transport, including the Dublin Bus connection between the LUAS and the DART. (see directions on this page)

The use of our extensive archival resources was reserved for fully paid-up GSI members, however, day research membership is available for just $\notin 5.00$.

