Abstract
This paper looks at the factors specific to South Australia which engendered widespread support for Irish Home Rule in a British and Protestant colony where the Irish community has historically been accepted as being small and insignificant. These factors relate to size, power, social connection and activity and the characteristics of the South Australian Irish community. Australian wealth and wages were poured into the coffers of visiting Irish parliamentary delegates but the moral sustenance offered proved as important as the fiscal. Patrick O'Farrell suggests that the donations merely salved the Irish-Australian conscience but Michael Davitt noted the worth of Australian means offered to reach an Irish end.

Fidelma Breen is a native of Portadown, Co. Armagh and a postgraduate student in the School of History & Politics at the University of Adelaide. Her thesis, entitled "Yet we are told Australians do not sympathise with Ireland", a study of South Australian support for Irish Home Rule, has recently been accepted for the award of Master of Philosophy. Her proposed PhD research focusses on contemporary Irish migrants, settlement processes, mental health and social media as a platform for support in the migration process.

In 2009 Fidelma founded a website and online Facebook community called Adelaide Irish Connect which serves as a social connection point and a quasi-migrant information service. Fidelma is a graduate of Magee College, University of Ulster and the University of Leicester.