

Newsletter – St. Paul's Garda Medical Aid Society



Dear Members and Associate Members,

July 2026

We are delighted to provide you with a brief update on the status of various aspect of the Society activities to keep you abreast of the significant issues as they arise and progress.

Website – The Society's new website is nearing completion and is expected to launch shortly. Designed with members in mind, the updated site will provide a much more user-friendly experience, making it easier to access information, resources, news, and updates.

With a modern design and improved navigation, members will be able to find what they need quickly and efficiently across all devices, including mobile phones and tablets. We look forward to sharing the new platform with our membership and will provide further details in advance of the official launch.

While we hope that all members will be in a position to use the new website, we fully appreciate that this may not always be possible. Members who are unable to access the website will continue to receive full support through telephone contact and communications sent by post.

Portal – Following the website launch, we will introduce a new portal featuring enhanced functionality beyond what is currently available, including a brand-new claims submission feature designed to support our members in submitting and managing their claims more efficiently.

Claims payments- Our claims processing remains fully up to date, and all claims are currently being processed and paid within one week of receipt, except in cases where further clarification or supporting information may be required.

We would kindly encourage members to continue submitting claims on a regular basis rather than waiting until year end. This greatly assists us in maintaining maximum efficiency in processing and ensuring timely payments to all members. Regular submissions also help us to keep our financial records fully up to date and avoid significant increases in claim volumes at certain times of the year, allowing for a steadier and more manageable workflow throughout the year for everyone involved

New IT Systeme Development Progress – The new Oracle system is progressing very well, with the functionality components currently being finalised. Once implemented, the system will significantly enhance our internal processes and improve access to information, supporting more informed decision-making while helping us maintain our competitive advantage, protect member benefits, and minimise subscription increases.

The new system will also allow us to further streamline processes, improve overall efficiency, and provide faster response and turnaround times for our members. We look forward to sharing further updates as the project continues to progress.

AGM 2026 – Thank you to all members who attended AGM 2026, where we received extremely valuable contributions and engagement from those present. The resounding expressions of support for the operational management team were greatly appreciated and extremely gratifying.

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Several Rule changes were presented during the AGM, all of which were approved by the members in attendance. These changes have now been submitted to the Registrar of Friendly Societies for ratification prior to being formally published.

We would also like to emphasise that member feedback is always welcome, not only at the AGM but throughout the year. Ongoing engagement with our membership is extremely important to us, and while it may not always be possible to implement every suggestion received, all feedback is carefully considered and reviewed as part of our continuous governance programme. We also received several suggestions from members in advance of the AGM, which are currently under review, and we thank those members for taking the time to contribute their ideas and observations.

As we are now approaching the conclusion of the current programme of Rule changes, we remain committed to ensuring that these updates are in the best interests of the Society and continue to uphold the ethos and founding principles upon which the Society was established.

Associate Members – We are currently processing many Associate Member applications, and there has been significant interest and positivity generated through this initiative. In particular, the option allowing family members to remain connected with the Society beyond 29 years of age has proven to be extremely popular and warmly welcomed by members.

It is important to note that Associate Members may pay their own subscriptions directly and these do not need to be paid by their parents or related family members.

We would kindly ask all prospective Associate Members to ensure they familiarise themselves fully with the Rules of the Society before applying. In addition, when applying, please ensure that all relevant documentation, as outlined within the application process, is included to help avoid delays in processing applications.

EGM – As per previous communication it is proposed to hold an EGM in September, to address further rule amendments, Rule 2 and Rule 5, together with the remainder of the Society's Rules and any associated amendments that may arise because of the proposed updates to Rule 2 and Rule 5.

These changes form part of the Society's ongoing governance review programme and are intended to ensure clarity, consistency, and the continued strengthening of the Society's operational framework while preserving the core principles and ethos of the Society.

The date and venue will be circulated once decided.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Shannon Ryan
Secretary
St Paul's Garda Medical Aid Society