

the Ulster-Scot

SATURDAY 1st JULY 2023

COMPETITION



Win up to £500 in the Linen Hall
Ulster-Scots Writing Competition!
Details on page 15



◆ One of the few remaining copies of the original US Declaration of Independence is on display at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) as part of an exhibition highlighting the role of Ulster-Scots people in this epic moment in history. At the launch were (from left): Director of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, David Huddleston, Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service, Jayne Brady, US Special Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs, Joe Kennedy III, Northern Ireland Office Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Lord Caine, Ulster-Scots Agency Chief Executive Ian Crozier and US Consul General in Belfast, Paul Narain. Full story on page 3



◆ Young musicians celebrate achievements



◆ Summer events at Cockle Row Cottages, Groomsport



◆ East-West Twinned Schools making connections in Scotland

Francis Hutcheson and the framing of America

By Alister McReynolds

It is unlikely that Francis Hutcheson ever visited America in person but his well-explained ideas about freedom arguably had a huge defining impact on the drafting of both the Declaration of Independence and the later Constitution of the United States of America.

Francis Hutcheson was born on August 8, 1694, at his grandfather's manse at Drumalig, near Saintfield. Grandfather had travelled from Ayrshire to the rolling hills of County Down to minister to the many Scots (some fleeing famine) who had settled in that more welcoming environment. In the next generation Francis' father John, who was also a Presbyterian minister, was called to a congregation in Downpatrick and later to the city of Armagh. It was here that young Francis spent his very early years.

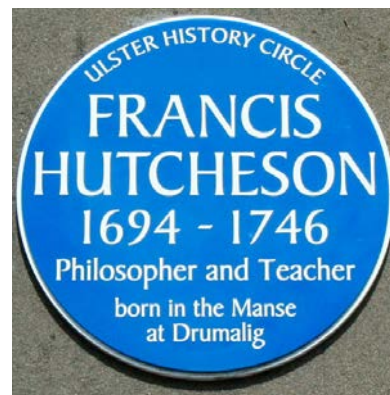
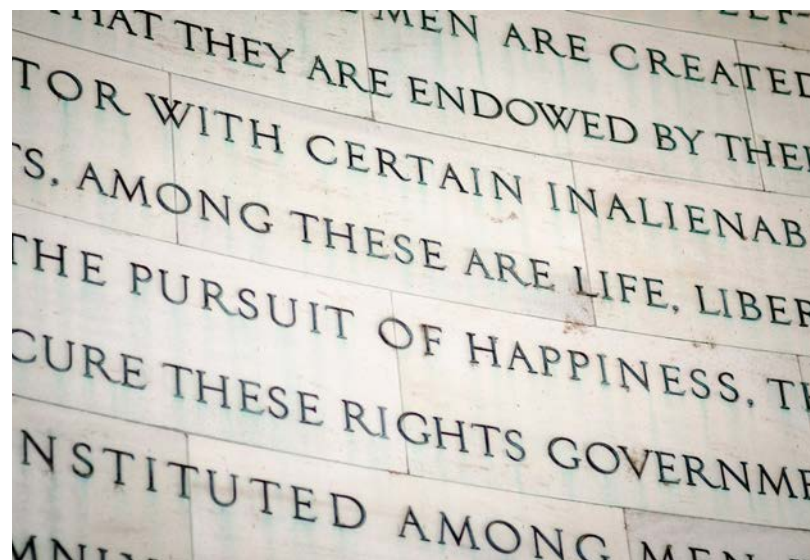
Aged eight years, Francis returned to his grandfather's abode in County Down where he attended John Hamilton's school, which was accommodated in a disused meeting house near Saintfield itself. Here the young Hutcheson was taught the classical languages, which he later applied so adeptly to his scholarly research and explanation. From John Hamilton's he moved to James McAlpin's 'philosophy school' in nearby Killyleagh. A fellow pupil was Francis' cousin James Bruce who was the son

of William Bruce, the local dissenter clergyman. This school provided an alternative route for dissenters who were determined to make their way in the civic life of Ulster, notwithstanding Church of Ireland predominance and restrictive practices.

The academy's courses were viewed as being of a high standard with able teachers and included studies in Logic, Metaphysics and Moral Philosophy. Shortly after his grandfather's death in 1711 the resultant financial inheritance allowed Francis to enrol as a student of Glasgow University in 1713.

The University staff of the time included a number of active and unconventional but thoroughgoing academics, notably Professor Stinson who was Head of the Theology faculty. Francis Hutcheson completed his studies in 1717 and after a short period returned to his native Ulster as a probationary minister to work with his father's congregation in Armagh. On one particular Sunday, when his father was ill, Francis 'covered' for him and conducted the service. Many of the congregation walked out as the sermon contained ideas which challenged their more conservative view of

theology and life. Notwithstanding the controversy that his alternative 'take' on relationships sometimes provoked, Francis Hutcheson was called to the County Down Presbyterian congregation at Magherally. However, the business of ministering to



and published *An Enquiry into Beauty and Virtue* and by 1728, *Essays on the Nature and Conduct of the Passions and Affections with Illustrations on the Moral Sense*. Incidentally both these books are now available as facsimile reprints. The latter text argues that rather than emphasising the concept of 'original sin', that actually it is 'love and virtue' that are inherent in human beings. Hutcheson further suggested that not only were these faculties inherent but that individuals living by them derived great pleasure and happiness from doing so.

The Scottish Enlightenment
In 1729 the 35-year-old Presbyterian preacher from Ulster was appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy at his old university in Glasgow. This proved to be a prescient move and within a very short period of time Hutcheson became one of the brightest stars in the constellation known as, 'The Scottish Enlightenment'. Overall this movement (and Hutcheson as a key element in it) was to have a huge impact, particularly on the political framework of the United States of America. Hutcheson's work had both a direct and an indirect effect. Arguably it was the latter which was the more powerful force and had the more enduring effect on the independence movement in America. The direct impact came through Hutcheson's writing. Bernard Bailyn in his publication, 'Pamphlets of the American Revolution, 1756-1776' tells us that Hutcheson was a figure that "the colonists knew and cited" in the mid-18th century. In particular he added that although Hutcheson was a Presbyterian minister he was "for absolute freedom of conscience and of public religious exercise." By the indirect route Hutcheson's teaching was to have an impact that was 'at arms length', but was nothing short of seismic in its effect.

As a 17-year-old Virginian of the wealthy class, Thomas Jefferson came to attend William and Mary College in Williamsburg in his home state. He walked through these elegant, classically designed doors in 1760, some 14 years after the death in Dublin of Francis Hutcheson. Still very much alive, however, and residing in America, and in this particular college were the ideas of Francis Hutcheson now espoused by many of his former students turned teachers. One such



FOR WHENEVER ANY
INVASION IS MADE
UPON UNALIENABLE
RIGHTS, THERE
MUST ARISE EITHER
A PERFECT OR
EXTREME RIGHT TO
RESISTANCE...

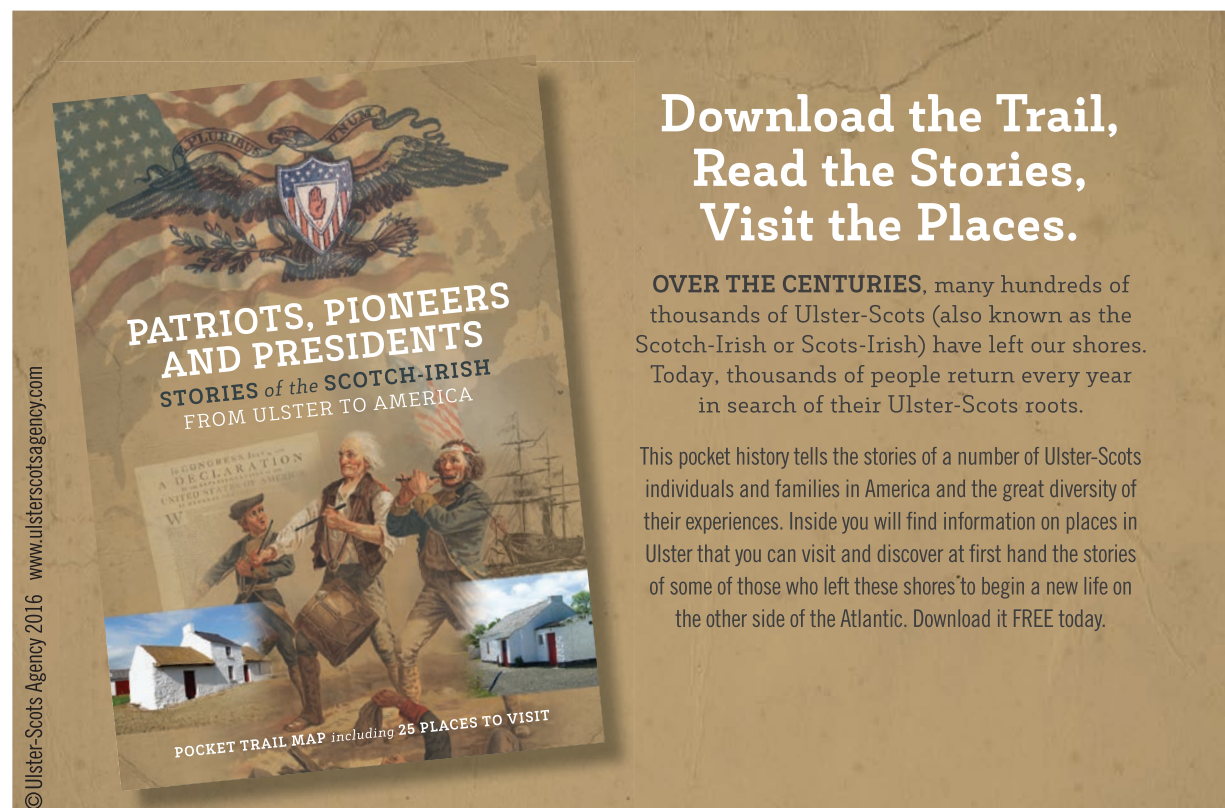
the Presbyterian flock in Ulster was not how Hutcheson made his mark on the world.

In the following year Francis Hutcheson held the position of running a private academy for the dissenting population of Dublin who had primarily settled there during the Cromwellian period. It was during this period that Hutcheson wrote some of his most enduring and seminal works. In the two years between 1723 and 1725 he wrote

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OVER THE CENTURIES, many hundreds of thousands of Ulster-Scots (also known as the Scotch-Irish or Scots-Irish) have left our shores. Today, thousands of people return every year in search of their Ulster-Scots roots.

This pocket history tells the stories of a number of Ulster-Scots individuals and families in America and the great diversity of their experiences. Inside you will find information on places in Ulster that you can visit and discover at first hand the stories of some of those who left these shores to begin a new life on the other side of the Atlantic. Download it FREE today.



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Patriots, Pioneers and Presidents Stories of the Scotch-Irish from Ulster to America

The Scotch-Irish are the bedrock of the United States. Their deeds have shaped the nation, from the Declaration of Independence to the moon landings and beyond. They have provided leadership out of all proportion to their numbers, whether as politicians, soldiers, business people, inventors or clergy.

To find out more about Patriots, Pioneers and Presidents and to download our trail map, scan the QR code or visit www.discoverulsterscots.com and search for Patriots, Pioneers and Presidents.

To collect a free copy of the Patriots, Pioneers and Presidents trail map, visit our Discover Ulster-Scots Centre in Belfast or Raphoe.



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Ulster-Scots and the Declaration of Independence Exhibition at PRONI

One of the remaining original copies of the US Declaration of Independence is currently on display in Northern Ireland for the first time. The Declaration of Independence is on loan to Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) from The National Archives (UK) and features as a centre-point of an Ulster-Scots exhibition.

The exhibition has been brought about as a result of a partnership between the Ulster-Scots Agency and PRONI and highlights the role of Ulster-Scots people in the American Declaration of Independence.

In April, Joe Kennedy III, the US Special Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs officially opened the exhibition and said: "... the contribution that your forefathers

made to the traditions and values of the United States is profound. I want to thank the Public Record Office and the Ulster-Scots Agency, organisations that preserve our shared history for future generations. It is through moments like this and these documents that we commit ourselves to the values and the ties that united us in the first place."

The launch event was also attended by Northern Ireland Office Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Lord Caine, whose team played a key role in securing the loan of the Declaration.

The Declaration of Independence on display is of a type known as a Dunlap Broadside, which were the original declarations printed on 4th July 1776 for distribution across the 13



The Board of the Ulster-Scots Agency with Joe Kennedy III and Agency CEO, Ian Crozier at PRONI



Joe Kennedy III at the launch of the exhibition

American Colonies. Of around 200 printed, only 26 survive today.

The Dunlap Broadside bears the name of two Ulster-Scots, Charles Thomson, the Secretary of the Continental Congress, who was born in Upperlands near Maghera; and John Dunlap, born in Strabane, the printer who the document is named after.

The only other name on the document is that of John Hancock, President of the Continental

Congress.

The exhibition is important as a celebration of the Ulster-Scots' greatest achievement - helping to establish the United States of America. The Ulster-Scots Agency and PRONI would like as many people as possible to visit the exhibition - to be a part of this historical moment and unique opportunity to see a rare artefact up close.

Admission to the exhibition is FREE and it is open to the public at

PRONI, 2 Titanic Boulevard, Belfast BT3 9HQ until July 24, 2023, with the possibility of an extension into August. Opening times Monday to Friday 9am to 4.45pm (except for Thursdays open from 10am). Visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com or follow the Agency on social media for updates.

See page 13 for further information about artefacts on display as part of the exhibition.

Continued from page 2

disciple was Dr William Small who had recently arrived at the College from Scotland. Small's teaching upheld the tenets of Hutcheson's central notions of 'liberty' and 'virtue'. Jefferson said that Dr Small "probably fixed the destinies of my life." Jefferson relied on reason rather than revelation to shape his moral code. As far as Jefferson was concerned the moral issue was not whether God existed but rather that all views on the subject ought to be tolerated: "It does me no injury for my neighbour to say that there are twenty gods or no God. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg."

Francis Hutcheson had written in his 1725 work about 'unalienable rights' which he saw as paramount and which controlled all governments and powers in how they dealt with individuals. This apparent truth spoke loudly and clearly to Thomas Jefferson and provided for him a sound justification for the American colonists to seek independence from Britain. It is easy to see why he would have thought this way if examination is made of Hutcheson's actual words - "for whenever any invasion is made upon unalienable rights, there must arise either a perfect or extreme right to resistance... unalienable rights are essential limitations in all governments." Not only do the words provide justification for the American Revolution but the phrase 'unalienable rights' taken from Hutcheson's reference to 'happiness' chimes clearly with Jefferson's concept of 'inalienable

rights' and with the Declaration of Independence 'checklist' to which he appended the phrase "the pursuit of happiness" as an indispensable item. Jefferson was the architect of the Declaration document which carried that concept. However, he was not the designer of the American Constitution. That role fell to his friend James Madison.

Here again Hutcheson played his part through the work of a former student, for Dr Witherspoon was Madison's mentor in a similar way to Dr Small for Thomas Jefferson and this time Princeton provided the context rather than William and Mary College.

Madison was very much influenced by Witherspoon who believed that freedom was essential if education was to fulfil its function of broadening and deepening the human mind and spirit. The Pulitzer Prize winning historian, Garry Wills tells us that, 'Hutcheson was the author of the central topic of philosophy as it was taught at Philadelphia and New York. What was true elsewhere was doubly true of William and Mary in Dr Small's time there'; and that, 'Madison under Witherspoon, like Jefferson under Small had shaped his politics to Scottish Enlightenment ways.'

Hutcheson's relatively lowly background in rural Ulster belies the impact of his writing and teaching of principles and revolutionary ideas that provided the foundation for that which Bernard Bailyn has deemed, 'the world to be built anew'.

ULSTER-SCOTS AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
20 APRIL - 24 JULY

EXHIBITION OPEN NOW
PRONI, TITANIC QUARTER

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Schools awarded Ulster-Scots Flagship status

The Ulster-Scots Flagship School Programme was launched in 2012 to promote the Ulster-Scots Language and the various strands of our Ulster-Scots culture and heritage, particularly in the fields of music and dance.

The full Flagship Programme lasts for 30 weeks during which time the participating school will select three subjects and receive regular tuition in those topics during the school day. The school is required to complete a fourth,

school-led project of its own choosing, linked to the world of Ulster-Scots.

One of the latest schools to complete the Ulster-Scots Flagship School Programme is Doagh Primary School in County Antrim. The staff got right behind the programme by initiating their own project first. They focussed their attention on the local linen industry and, in particular, John Rowan (1787 – 1838) who was a good choice for the Doagh pupils to study. An entrepreneur and linen spinner,



Gary Blair with Alanna Porter, head of Monaghan Model National School

Rowan was a self-taught engineer who devoted much of his time to developing ideas on how linen production could be improved.

First car

Indeed, he went beyond that and invented what was arguably the first car! The machine was steam powered and was seen for the first time in 1836 when the bold Rowan drove it along the streets of Belfast, astounding many. Unfortunately, his would-be sponsors did not share his enthusiasm for the machine and refused to back him.

Undaunted, Rowan established a foundry in his native Doagh that became a huge success, specialising in threshing machines and diversifying into various kinds of farming equipment. Such was the pride the



Portadown Independent Christian School receives the award

people of Doagh had in John Rowan that a monument was erected in the village in memory of this Ulster-Scots innovator and remains today.

Having completed their study of John Rowan which included an exhibition of their findings, the pupils then studied drama and Highland Dance to complete their 30-week programme.

On June 15, Gary Blair of the Ulster-Scots Agency's Education Team presented the school with the prestigious Ulster-Scots Flagship School Award. We look forward to engaging with Doagh Primary School in the future.

Fiddle lessons

On June 26, two more schools received their prestigious Ulster-Scots Flagship School award. Monaghan Model National School was the first recipient, and the award was received by school Principal Alanna Porter.



Gary Blair presents an award to Lisnadill PS

The participating pupils in Monaghan Model studied the fiddle and Highland Dancing over a two-year period and made great progress with among others, four pupils striving towards Grade 4 accreditation.

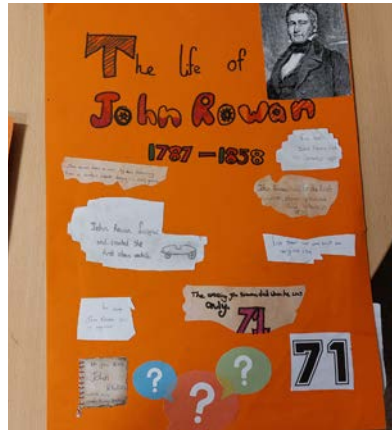
Portadown Independent Christian School pupils have achieved amazing success with the fiddle with three grade 8 pupils, five grade 6 and two grade 2 fiddlers at the school.

Flutes and Drums

Lisnadill Primary School also received their Flagship Award. The school had completed an After School Club and then progressed to the Ulster-Scots Flagship Programme. Over the past 30 weeks, the participating pupils have studied the b Flat Flute and Snare Drum. The drummers were awarded the Foundation Award Certificates at an event held in Parliament Buildings last November, a testimony to their dedication and commitment.



Doagh PS receives the award



Doagh PS studied John Rowan

Friendships forged from school twinning programme

The School Twinning Programme managed by the Ulster-Scots Agency has been one of the most successful programmes we have rolled out to schools as part of our education strategy. The programme comes in two parts, East-West Twinning and North-South Twinning.

East – West Twinning: Creavey Primary School and Sorn Primary School, Scotland

The Agency's Education Department identifies two schools, one in Scotland and one in Northern Ireland who would have much in common, not least their ancestral roots and spoken language. Once the participating schools have been identified and contacted, they begin a process of correspondence whereby the pupils of both schools email and write to each other for a prolonged period, sharing information about themselves and their school and the area they are from. The correspondence passes through the staff of both schools and this system has proven to be best practice for such contact.

As well as the correspondence, the pupils from each school are charged with choosing a theme (in some cases chosen by the Agency with the agreement of school staff) and they will study the subject, compiling a written

portfolio of their work. The portfolio includes the history of the school and something significant about the place they live and must be tied into the Ulster-Scots heritage and traditions.

The Agency then organises a visit by the Northern Ireland based school to their counterparts in Scotland. This may be a one-day trip, or it could involve an overnight stay if the distance proves too great. The visit enables the children to meet their penfriends and engage with each other. They then exchange the portfolios, so the pupils of both schools come away with a heightened awareness of the links that exist between Ulster and Scotland and a little more knowledge about another part of their world.

On Thursday, June 1, 2023, the pupils of Creavey Primary School near Antrim set off to visit Sorn Primary School in the

village of that name, near Mauchline. The children spent a few hours together and exchanged gifts and played games before moving on to the Burns House in Mauchline town. They took a tour of the building that was once home to Robert Burns and learned a little more about the famous Bard who wrote in Scots, a language with striking similarities to our own Ulster-Scots.

On the second day of the trip, the children from Creavey were taken to the Burns Museum in Alloway where they soaked up the atmosphere of the park and cottage as well as the physical museum dedicated to Burns before returning home on the afternoon ferry. It is hoped that the links between the two schools will continue on into the future and that the pupils on both sides of 'the sheugh' have learned a little more about the cousins across the sea.



Creavey PS pupils travelled to Scotland to meet their friends from Sorn PS



The children enjoyed visiting the Burns Cottage in Ayrshire

North – South Twinning: Castleroe Primary School and Killeshandra National School



Pupils from Castleroe PS and Killeshandra National School had a fun day at the Ulster-American Folk Park

The Ulster-American Folk Park near Omagh was the setting for a meeting between pupils from Castleroe Primary School near Coleraine, County Londonderry and pupils from Killeshandra National School in County Cavan on June 16. For some months now, the pupils from both schools have

been engaged in a 'North - South School Twinning' programme where they corresponded with each other regularly in the run up to this meeting. The pupils and staff of both schools enjoyed a lovely day with plenty of sunshine and learning opportunities which they welcomed with enthusiasm.



Pipers from Down Academy



Manorcunningham Pipe Band



Local and visiting bands put on a great display



Force Drum Majors

Sun shines on Raphoe Ulster-Scots Heritage Day



The Sollus Highland dancers were beautifully turned out

The Ulster-Scots Agency hosted the annual Raphoe Ulster-Scots Heritage Day on Saturday, May 27. The event, in the grounds of the Royal & Prior Comprehensive School in Raphoe, attracted over 1500 spectators and participants.

The Ulster-Scots Agency launched this annual event in 2015, to celebrate the rich Ulster-Scots heritage of East Donegal and Raphoe.

With the covid pandemic disrupting life, the Agency was keen to return to Raphoe this year, running it in May instead of September.

Highlights of the day included performances from the rising stars of traditional Ulster-Scots music, Elbowed Out, the Sollus School of Highland Dance and for the first time in County Donegal, the Force Drum Major display team.



Sollus School of Highland Dance



Force Drum Majors

East Donegal is renowned for its strong piping tradition and 14 pipe bands attended the event, offering a mix of some of the top competition bands alongside some top-quality non-competing bands. This is one of the great aspects of the Raphoe event where bands of all levels are performing together. In addition to several local pipe bands, it was great to welcome the young pipers and

drummers from Down Academy Pipes & Drums, the recently reformed Queen Elizabeth Pipe Band and Garvagh Pipe Band who travelled a distance to support the event.

Several bands performed their sets in the piping area, this was followed by a march past, and all bands entertained the spectators by performing as a massed band under the command of Pipe Major Alex Brown. The finale of

the event was a parade of Raphoe by all the bands.

The new venue offered great facilities for the event and for car parking. The weather was kind and spectators and participants enjoyed an East Donegal traybake, a burger or an ice cream. The Ulster-Scots Agency looks forward to working with local bands to further develop the event in the future.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS OF YOUNG ULSTER-SCOTS MUSICIANS AT STORMONT

The achievements of many young Ulster-Scots musicians from across Northern Ireland were celebrated at Stormont recently. Hundreds gathered for musical graduations over two nights in the Great Hall at Parliament Buildings, to watch 130 young musicians receive foundation certificates in piping, drumming and drum majoring awarded by the Ulster-Scots Agency and the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (NI).

More than 130 young learners from primary and post primary schools throughout Northern Ireland as well as the RSPBA (NI) Pipe Band College, attended to receive recognition for having achieved Foundation level of learning in their new instruments.

The event was hosted by former Education Minister Michelle McIlveen MLA, a great advocate of Ulster-Scots. Mrs McIlveen welcomed the crowd to Stormont on the two nights, adding: "It is marvellous to see so many young people getting involved in piping and drumming. Music is central to Ulster-Scots and something that is of huge benefit to the young people and our community more generally. I would like to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to the students, tutors, and their families for supporting them. I am delighted to host these celebrations, recognising the hard work and dedication from so many

young people and wish them every success as they continue their musical learning."

The Ulster-Scots Agency organised the event as most of the young graduates have been taught through Ulster-Scots Agency funded tuition programmes delivered in schools throughout Ulster. Agency Chief Executive Ian Crozier encouraged the young learners to continue on their cultural journey. "In addition to their musical achievements, the young people now have the opportunity to join the pipe band family... for many they will be continuing a tradition that has been passed down to them, for others, they are starting a tradition that hopefully one day they will pass on to their own children.

"They also have the opportunity to become part of the larger Ulster-Scots family," he added. "It was in recognition of the richness of our identity and our global legacy that on this very day last year, the UK Government announced that it was recognising the Ulster-Scots community as a National Minority of the United Kingdom under international law, on the same footing as the Scots, Welsh, Irish and Cornish.

"The journey that these young people have started on also opens the door to the Ulster-Scots community and all of that rich cultural inheritance is there for them to learn about and become a part of."

The Ulster-Scots Agency and the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (NI) jointly developed Foundation Certificates to provide an opportunity to recognise young students having mastered the foundation playing in bagpipes initially, later extending the certificates to include the full range of drumming disciplines and drum major skills. RSPBA (NI) was represented by NI President, Winston Pinkerton, and NI Chair, Alistair Patterson, who both spoke about the fantastic numbers graduating from the teaching programmes and the tremendous impact on the band scene, especially the pipe band community and how encouraging it was to see so many new, young musicians embracing their Ulster-Scots culture.

The graduates were drawn from a number of schools and organisations including: Banbridge High School, Campbell College, Cedar Integrated Primary School, Clare Primary School, Cooley Primary School, Down Academy Pipes and Drums, Dromore High School, Drumlins Integrated Primary School, Glasswater Primary School, Killyleagh Primary School, Markethill Primary School, Moneyreagh Primary School, Old Warren Primary School, Omagh Academy, RSPBA (NI) Piping and Drumming College NI, Saintfield High School, Spa Primary School, St Colman's High and The High School, Ballynahinch.



Young Ulster-Scots musicians from across Northern Ireland celebrate achieving their foundation certificates in piping, drumming and drum majoring awarded by the Ulster-Scots Agency and the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (NI). The event was held over two days at Stormont. Pictured L - R: RSPBA NI Chair, Alastair Patterson, RSPBA President, George Ussher with Michelle McIlveen MLA, who hosted the event and Agency Board member, Trevor Wilson during Thursday's graduation. RSPBA (NI) President, Winston Pinkerton and Agency CEO, Ian Crozier also presented awards during Wednesday's graduation

Getting to know the *Ulster-Scots Community Network*



The Ulster-Scots Community Network is an umbrella body of over 600 groups that operate within the broad Ulster-Scots sector with groups ranging from cultural societies to churches, marching bands and schools amongst others. We've been in existence for over 25 years, and we work to help groups on the ground right across Ulster. The Network is here to help groups develop their skills, improve their knowledge of Ulster-Scots and grow their community and cultural



confidence. So, if you want to improve your understanding of Ulster-Scots through educational courses, talks or help with running an Ulster-Scots

event then we can help. While we're based in the Discover Ulster-Scots Centre in Belfast, our staff travel across the country to help groups or to deliver workshops and talks in community venues including halls, churches and libraries. If you want to talk to us about anything around Ulster-Scots, policies or governance, funding advice or practical elements like Safeguarding and AccessNI then don't hesitate to give us a call. Our Office number is (028) 9043 6710 or you can email info@ulster-scots.com.

Alternatively, you can talk to our staff about things:

Charles Neville is the Development Officer for South Ulster including Armagh and Fermanagh and he also is responsible for some of our Education Courses. To contact Charles - 07824 510 304 or charlesn@ulster-scots.com.

Deirdre Speer Whyte is the Development Officer for Mid-Ulster and the North West and can deliver talks for groups on a range of topics including genealogy and family history. She's also responsible for the delivery of some of our Education Courses along with Charles. To contact Deirdre - 07826 849 767 or deirdre@ulster-scots.com.

David McAuley is the Development Officer for Antrim and looks to help groups with governance advice and funding support. To contact David - 07825 005 425 or david.mcauley@ulster-scots.com.

Matthew Warwick is our Education & Outreach Officer and delivers talks to a range of groups across the country. He's also the lead on our AccessNI service. You'll get Matthew through our office on (028) 9043 6710 or matthew@ulster-scots.com.

David Gilliland is the Networks' Operations Director and has years of community development experience. If you need advice or guidance around policies or procedures or our AccessNI and safeguarding issues, then David can help you out. To contact David - 07795 490 600 or david@ulster-scots.com.

Join the *Ulster-Scots Community Network*

USCN is a membership based organisation acting as a resource for the broad Ulster-Scots community in Ulster. We make it our task to represent the interests of the community across the country and to lobby on their behalf. Membership is free and provides access to a range of services including advice about funding opportunities, governance assistance - help with constitution, policy templates etc. - as well as providing an AccessNI service for groups who need to have volunteers AccessNI checked for projects.

There is no fee for joining the Network and it's easy to sign up. Simply enter the details of the link below and that will take you to our sign-up page, check out our Facebook page, or scan the QR code using your smartphone and complete your details. If you want to be aware of what's going on in the Ulster-Scots community then it makes sense to be part of the Network.

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Writing a new page for Ulster-Scots

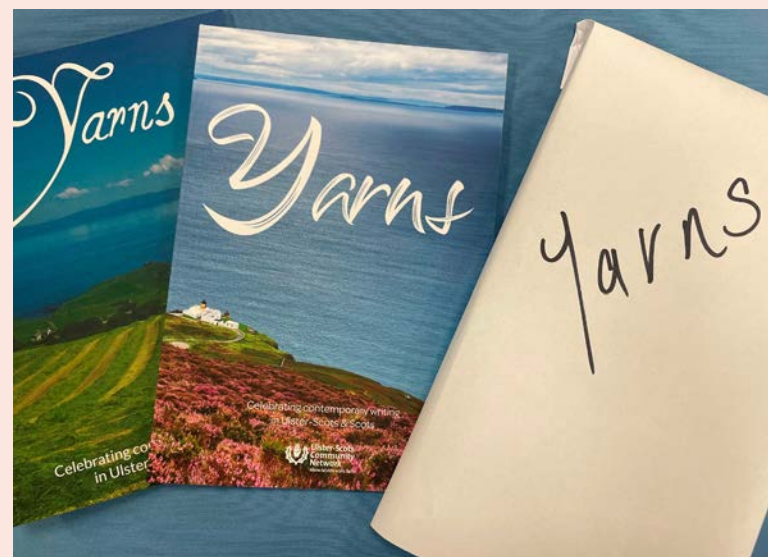
Over the last few years, we've been keen to promote new writing in Ulster-Scots and Scots, and we've now published two editions of our journal Yarns. This year we're aiming to do it again, and the plan is for the latest edition to be ready for publication during Ulster-Scots Leid Week in November. So, if you're a writer, writing either poetry or prose in Ulster-Scots or Scots, then this might be just what you're looking for.

The journal is open to receiving submissions from writers new and old, previously published or first-time writers, as we hope to encourage a broader engagement with Ulster-Scots writing and themes. Submissions should be in Ulster-Scots or Scots.

The closing date for submissions is Friday, July 28, 2023, and they can be emailed to yarns@ulster-scots.com.

All entrants will receive a complimentary copy of the Ulster-Scots Writers' Guide published by the Ulster-Scots Academy Press and a copy of the printed journal.

The editorial panel's decision on inclusion is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. Submitted pieces should be the original work of the person



submitting them and should not contain any material written by anyone else or copied from elsewhere. Ideally, the work should not have been published elsewhere. Copyright of the work remains with the author; however, submitting it for inclusion gives the Ulster-Scots Community Network the right in perpetuity to publish and/or broadcast their work.



Fun-filled summer planned at Cockle Row Cottages

This year Ards and North Down Borough Council is delighted to open the doors to the Cockle Row Cottages in Groomsport, County Down, for the summer season. Also running throughout July, August and September these lovingly restored fisherman's cottages will be the venue for Sunday afternoon entertainment, including Ulster-Scots activities on a number of dates.

Open to the public from 11am - 5pm, Thursday to Sunday each week until the end of August, the cottages also stock a range of tourist and heritage information as well as a small gift shop full of local crafts and pottery.

In partnership with the Council, the Ulster-Scots Agency is thrilled to celebrate Ulster-Scots language, heritage, and culture with an array of exciting activities at Cockle Row cottages again this year.

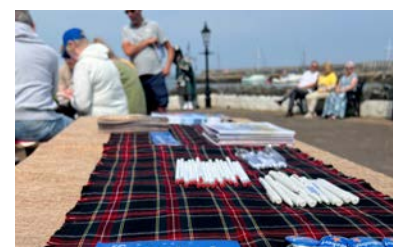
Join us for highland dance, piping, soda bread making, archery, and even falconry! Keep a close eye on our social



media for updates on the exciting events in store. Don't miss out on the chance to immerse yourself in our shared history – there's something for



Cockle Row Cottages, Groomsport Harbour, Groomsport, County Down, BT19 6JP



everyone, young and old. Come along, it will be great crack!

Programme of Ulster-Scots activities:

JULY:

9th – Piping and Drumming with Grahame Harris and Lee Lawson and the Demi Walker Highland Dance School.

AUGUST:

6th – Demi Walker Highland Dance School and soda bread making with Tracey's Farmhouse Kitchen.

SEPTEMBER:

10th – European Heritage Weekend offering a host of activities organised by Ards and North Down Borough Council and the Ulster-Scots Agency. Follow us on social media for further details.

For more information on Ards & North Down Borough Council's full summer entertainment programme go to:



Guided Tours

Local community group Discover Groomsport is running free guided history tours of Groomsport each Saturday during July and August (weather permitting). The tours start at Cockle Row Cottages at 2.30pm and last around 90 minutes. Tours will also run on the European Heritage Open Days on September 9-10.

Scottish settlers, Schomberg landing on his way to the Battle of the Boyne, Viking raiders and an Irish chieftain. The voyage of the Eagle Wing – the first attempt by Ulster-Scots folks to emigrate to America – and landlords who kept changing their family name. All of these aspects of Groomsport's history are covered on the tour.

The tour also includes important buildings in the village, including the Coast Guard's Watch House, the first lifeboat house in Belfast Lough and the fishermen's cottages at Cockle Row. Grander buildings include Groomsport House and the two churches, which were all built in the 1840s.

To book your place on a tour visit www.discovergroomsport.com/history-tours-talks.

Group bookings

If a group or organisation would like to take the tour, this can be arranged at a convenient time. Discover Groomsport also has an illustrated talk 'Aspects of the History of Groomsport' which is based on the guided history tour. This can be presented at meetings of groups or organisations. If your group would like to arrange a tour or illustrated talk, email: discovergroomsport@gmail.com for further information.

Celebrating the Ulster-Scots Connection: Arthur Cottage and the Andrew Jackson Cottage

Mid and East Antrim is rich with Ulster-Scots history and connections. It is in the unique position of having two American presidential connections and homesteads in the Borough - both located off the Causeway coastal route. Throughout the year, these connections are celebrated with events and activities welcoming both local and international visitors all year round.

Andrew Jackson Cottage showcases Carrickfergus' strong American and Ulster-Scots connections and tells the story of Andrew Jackson; the 7th President of the USA. Nestled in the rural village of Cullybackey, Arthur Cottage is the ancestral home of Chester Alan Arthur, the 21st President of the United States of America.

This year is the perfect opportunity to visit these fantastic locations, full of history and heritage.

Bring your picnic on July 4 to Arthur Cottage, Cullybackey, to take part the Independence Day Quilting Bee from 11am - 3pm.

On Saturday, August 19, bring your favourite childhood teddy bear to Arthur Cottage for a health check and



Andrew Jackson Cottage

to be mended in the traditional way at a Teddy Bear's Picnic event.

In September Arthur Cottage and the Andrew Jackson Cottage will be celebrating European Heritage Open Days - opening the doors and demonstrating the traditional art of soda bread making and spinning.

During November look out for our Ulster-Scots Leid Week activities.

For up-to-date event information please visit www.shapedbyseaandstone.com or follow the Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Facebook page.

Both cottages are open all year

round, Wednesday to Sunday from 11am to 3pm, and can be opened at other times by prior arrangement.

*Please note that days and times are subject to change, it is advisable to check with the local Visitor Information Centre's before visiting. A small admission charge applies to Arthur Cottage.

Uniquely Ulster-Scots 'I do's'

This year, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council licensed both presidential cottages and the Gobbins Cliff Path to host wedding ceremonies. So if you've ever dreamt of getting married at an iconic venue that offers a truly unique wedding experience then we could have the venue for you. Both cottages can host you and up to 12 guests for your wedding ceremony or there is the option of a garden ceremony accommodating up to 32 guests.

For venue hire charges and wedding ceremony enquiries please contact: Arthur Cottage: The Braid Visitor Information Centre, Tel: 028 25635 010 or E: tic.reception@midandeastantrim.gov.uk



Inside Andrew Jackson Cottage



Craft demonstrations at Arthur Cottage

Andrew Jackson Cottage & US Rangers Museum: Carrickfergus Castle Visitor Information Centre, Tel: 028 9335 8262 or E: visitorinfo@midandeastantrim.gov.uk

◆ Ulster-Scots Community Projects



Hanna's Cottage, Kilkeel

Small Events 2023

A few Ulster-Scots community and voluntary groups have availed of the Agency's small events programme to host events during July 2023.

Hanna's Cottage
River Valley Development Association is hosting a Heritage Day at Hanna's Close, Kilkeel. This is the site of seven beautifully preserved traditional cottages dating back to the 1600s. The event is taking place from 10am-4pm on July 29, with lots of fun for all the family including storytelling, dog shows, fun fair rides, demonstrations of heritage skills and much more.

Some of the other organisations who availed of the small grants programme include:
Ballyrashane LOL 431: July 1
Plumbridge LOL 560: July 1 - October 31
Down Academy Pipes and Drums: July 3-7
Dunaney Accordion Band: July 7
Aughafatten Royal Blues 1184: July 12
Killygullib Rural Development Association: July 12 - August 19.
For more details of all the Ulster-Scots Agency funded events visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events or follow the Agency on social media for updates.

Festival round-up

The Ulster-Scots Agency will fund a number of community festivals over the summer and autumn of 2023. The Annual Community Festival grant programme was significantly oversubscribed, however, after tough competition the Ulster-Scots Agency will be financially supporting 12 festivals to the tune of almost £100,000

◆ **Hairtlan Festival**
The community festival season will kick off with The Hairtlan Festival in Kilkeel delivered by the Schomberg Society and running from June 28 to July 11. This annual festival offers a wide variety of Ulster-Scots cultural activities including a variety of workshops, events and an exhibition promoting Ulster-Scots culture. The festival has a strong emphasis on living history and ends with the annual 11th night pageant. View the full programme on page 10.

◆ **Festival of Flutes**
The Festival of Flutes is a new festival based in Londonderry and organised by the North West Cultural Partnership from July 3-10. The festival will focus on the great tradition of flute playing and will celebrate this unique instrument in a variety of ways. The line-up will include some high-profile musicians in the world of flute and traditional music and will celebrate the contribution of the flute to the Ulster-Scots tradition.

◆ **The Kith & Kintra Festival**
Loughbrickland and Magherafelt District Orange Lodges have organised



The Maiden City Festival takes to The Foyle

two festivals around July 12 with The Kith & Kintra Festival in Magherafelt building upon a similar event last year.

◆ **Maiden City Festival**
The Maiden City Festival, based in Derry-Londonderry runs from August 5-12. This year the Festival celebrates its 25th anniversary! Bringing the story of the Siege of Londonderry to life

with re-enactors re-telling the story, it will include a mix of traditional and innovative cultural experiences that residents of the city and visitors alike will enjoy.

◆ **East Donegal Family History Festival**
The Monreagh Ulster-Scots Centre in County Donegal will be the focus of a five-day East Donegal Family History Festival from August 22-27 which also incorporates culture, heritage and includes an Ulster-Scots language element.



New for 2023: The Festival of Flutes

◆ **Bessy Bell & Mary Gray Ulster-Scots Festival**
The second annual Bessy Bell & Mary Gray

EAST DONEGAL Family History Festival

MONDAY 21ST AUGUST TO FRIDAY 25TH AUGUST

At Monreagh Ulster Scots Heritage Centre, The Old Manse, (near Carrigans), County Donegal F93 DN24

Paula McIntyre

In Autumn 2001 Paula was given her own TV series on BBC 2 NI called "Taste for Adventure". She appeared as a guest chef with Eamonn Holmes on BBC 1 NI's "Summer Season" programme and was a reporter on food issues for BBC 1 NI's "Inside Out" programme. She has also been a guest chef twice on RTE 1's "Afternoon Show".

Paula will be demonstrating her culinary skills at Monreagh Community Hall on Monday 21st August from 12 noon to 3pm

"KITH AND KINTRA VINTAGE DAY"
MEGARGY ORANGE HALL
SATURDAY 8TH JULY
EVERYONE WELCOME - FREE EVENT

11AM - 5PM • 17TH CENTURY WORKSHOPS - VINTAGE VEHICLES - IRON WORKING - TRADITIONAL FOOD
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES - BANNER PAINTING - PETTING ZOO
OLD REGALIA - FAMILY HISTORY - TRADITIONAL GAMES
INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS AND TALKS - SPORT ARCHIVES
18TH CENTURY SPINNING DEMONSTRATION - MUCH MUCH MORE

3PM - 5PM • SUMMER HOGMANAY MUSIC AND SONG
RISIN' STOUR ULSTER SCOTS CEILIDH BAND

Ulster-Scots Agency Board o' Ulster-Scotch

◆ Ulster-Scots Community Projects



Living history in the Maiden City

Ulster-Scots Festival will be held in Newtownstewart during November. This festival will build upon the success of last year's inaugural festival and offers a wide range of activities including music, drama, language, schools programme, and an Ulster-Scots photography competition.

Festivals will also be held in Belfast, Donaghadee, Killinchy, and Keady. In addition to the 11 festivals funded in 2023 the Agency will also support a festival in February 2024. The festival programme offers a range of cultural experiences, with a good mix of annual and new festivals. For more details of all the Ulster-Scots Agency funded festivals visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events or follow the Agency on social media for updates.



August sees an East Donegal Family History Festival

Ulster-Scots Summer Schools

The Ulster-Scots summer school programme supports groups to deliver a five-day programme for children and young people aged 7 to 16 years old. This year the Ulster-Scots Agency is financially supporting 22 community and voluntary groups for summer schools during July and August.

During the five days children and young people get a hands-on opportunity to experience Ulster-Scots culture, heritage, and language. During the week a series of interactive workshops are delivered by tutors who engage with participants and provide a taste of our rich Ulster-Scots culture.

Summer Schools will be delivered throughout Northern Ireland and in County Donegal with over 900 children participating. In addition to supporting the workshops, the funding also supports arts and craft activities, food for the children and the cost of providing leaders for the summer schools.

Groups can also avail of the opportunity to incorporate an educational visit to a site, museum or visitor centre which has a strong Ulster-Scots connection. This year, summer school participants will visit



Learning about history at the Ulster American Folk Park

a range of sites including the Ulster American Folk Park, Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, Londonderry, and the Siege Museum.

Several regular community and voluntary groups have received funding in the 2023 summer school funding programme and the Agency is also pleased to announce that some new groups have also been

funded to host summer schools this year. New summer school locations include Ballybeen, Tubrid in County Fermanagh, Carrickfergus, and Coleraine.

We hope all the children attending one of our summer schools this year enjoy learning more about our Ulster-Scots culture, heritage, and language and have lots of fun over the five days.





NEW GATE
ARTS & CULTURE CENTRE
PRESENTS

FESTIVAL OF FLUTES

3RD - 10TH JULY

www.newgatearts.com

Ulster-Scots Photography Competition

As part of our Bessy Bell & Mary Gray Ulster-Scots Festival in November 2023, Derry and Raphoe Action Group is hosting and Ulster-Scots Photography Competition.

Categories this year will be people and places. Entries to be received by 30th September 2023.

For more information and to submit entries, email draulsterscots.info@gmail.com.

Photographs taken on mobile phones are perfect.

No entries of a political nature and please be mindful of Safeguarding issues.

Goodluck!





'Tha Hairtlan' Festival

Celebrating Ulster-Scots Culture in the Kingdom o' Mourne



WEDNESDAY 28TH JUNE

ULSTER-SCOTS BAKING DEMONSTRATION (IN CONJUNCTION WITH MAST VICTIMS GROUP)

10.30am
Reivers House, Kilkeel
Booking Essential

SNARE DRUM WORKSHOP

7.30pm
Reivers House, Kilkeel
Booking Essential

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND DANCE WORKSHOP

3.30pm
Mullartown House, Annalong

THURSDAY 29TH JUNE

FIFE & LAMBEG DRUM WORKSHOP

7.30pm
Ballinran Orange Hall, Kilkeel

FRIDAY 30TH JUNE

BALLYMAGEOUGH SUMMER SOCIAL (HIGH SCHOOL AGE)

8.30pm
Ballymageough Orange Hall, Kilkeel
(Admission £5)

ULSTER-SCOTS GATHERING & BBQ

7.30pm
Silent Valley Reservoir, Kilkeel
Event taking place beside the lower pond. Car Parking and Toilet facilities close by.
(Featuring Marching Bands, Singers, Musicians, Highland Dancers, Drum Majors & Living History Performers, Exhibitions & Ulster-Scots Baking Demonstration)

FREE Children's Inflatables!
This is a FREE Event
BBQ will be hosted by The Highland Heathers Ladies Group

Everyone welcome!

SATURDAY 1ST JULY

BATTLE OF THE SOMME COMMEMORATION, KILKEEL

Leaving Reivers House at 6.30pm
(Rising Sons of the Valley Flute Band accompanied by 36th Ulster Division Re-Enactors & Piper)
Service and Act of Remembrance at Mourne Presbyterian War Memorial

BATTLE OF THE SOMME COMMEMORATION, ANNALONG

7.45pm
(Local Marching Bands & Wreath Laying Service)

SUNDAY 2ND JULY

AULD TIME ULSTER-SCOTS GOSPEL EVENING

7pm
Mourne Presbyterian Church, Kilkeel

MONDAY 3RD - FRIDAY 7TH JULY 2023

AN EXHIBITION OF ULSTER-SCOTS FISHING & FARMING HERITAGE IN MOURNE

Open during Kilkeel Library
Opening Hours
Kilkeel Library

MONDAY 3RD JULY

DRUM MAJORING WORKSHOP

7.30pm
Reivers House, Kilkeel
Booking Essential

TUESDAY 4TH JULY

FIDDLE WORKSHOP

7pm
Reivers House, Kilkeel
Booking Essential

FLUTE WORKSHOP

7.30pm
Reivers House, Kilkeel
Booking Essential

'THE MOURNE COMPANIES ULSTER VOLUNTEERS 1913' - TALK & PRESENTATION BY HISTORIAN QUINCEY DOUGAN

8pm
Reivers House, Kilkeel
Everyone Welcome!

WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY

THE HIGHLAND HEATHERS ULSTER-SCOTS VEGETABLE PLANTING EVENING

7.30pm
Queen Elizabeth II Park,
Manse Road, Kilkeel
Booking Essential

THURSDAY 6TH JULY

ULSTER-SCOTS TEA DANCE

2.30pm
Annalong Community Centre

FRIDAY 7TH JULY 2023

LAMBEG DRUMMING COMPETITION (IN CONJUNCTION WITH SOUTH ULSTER DRUMMING ASSOCIATION)

8pm
Lower Square Events Space, Kilkeel

SATURDAY 8TH JULY

AN AFTERNOON OF ULSTER-SCOTS POETRY

2pm
Slieve Roe House, Kilkeel

SUNDAY 9TH JULY

AN AFTERNOON OF ULSTER-SCOTS GOSPEL SINGING

2.30pm
Brooklands Nursing Home, Kilkeel

MONDAY 10TH JULY

HIGHLAND DANCE WORKSHOP

3.30pm
Reivers House, Kilkeel

TUESDAY 11TH JULY

HIGHLAND DANCE COMPETITION

From 10am
Queen Elizabeth II Park, Kilkeel

TUESDAY 11TH JULY

11TH JULY AFTERNOON FUN DAY

1-3pm
Queen Elizabeth II Park, Kilkeel

Featuring...

- Kid's Highland Games (Age 8+)
- Kid's Tug o' War
- Kid's Crazy Golf
- Kid's Ulster-Scots Crafts
- Football
- Falconry Display
- Petting Farm
- Face Painting
- Balloon Modelling
- A Wide Range of Children's Inflatables & Children's Entertainment
- Archery & Target Shooting
- Scottish Highland Dancing
- Lambeg Drumming
- Drum Majoring
- Drama Performers
- Marching Bands
- A Major Exhibition of Artefacts, Uniforms & Memorabilia from 'The Troubles'
- 17th Century Ulster-Scots Living History Campsites & Traditional Displays
- Living History Re-Enactors and Weapon Demonstrations
- Ulster-Scots Traditional Baking Demonstrations
- Ulster-Scots Musicians & Singers
- A Variety of Stalls, Food & Ice-Cream & Much More

This is a FREE Event and everyone is more than welcome!

(A small charge will apply for the Children's Inflatables)

11TH JULY WREATH LAYING SERVICE

6pm
Memorial Stone, Knockchree Avenue, Kilkeel

11TH JULY NIGHT PAGEANT

7.30pm
Kilkeel Town Centre

Featuring...

- Horses & Carriages
- Cannons
- Living History Re-Enactors
- A display of old Orange Banners
- The World's Largest Lambeg Drum
- Vintage & Military Vehicles
- Floats
- Marching Bands (Including Massed Pipes & Drums Band)
- World Champion Drum Majors
- Highland Dancers
- Children's Entertainers

This is a FREE Event, everyone welcome!

11TH JULY OPEN AIR NIGHT CONCERT

8.30pm
Queen Elizabeth II Park,
Manse Road, Kilkeel

Featuring...

- Britain's Got Talent Finalists: THE D-DAY DARLINGS KING'S CORONATION TOUR
- Ulster-Scots Battlefield Re-Enactment Display & Beacon Lighting
- Bonfire & Professional Fire Breathers & Performers
- Fireworks Extravaganza
- World Champion Drum Major Display
- Highland Dance Display
- Lambeg Drummers
- Marching Bands
- Children's Petting Farm
- A Wide Range of Children's Inflatables & Children's Entertainment
- Balloon Modellers & Face Painters
- Archery & Target Shooting
- 17th Century Ulster-Scots Living History Campsites & Traditional Displays
- A Major Exhibition of Artefacts, Uniforms & Memorabilia from 'The Troubles'
- A Variety of Stalls, Food & Ice-Cream

This is a FREE Event, everyone welcome!

DRUMMING OUT THE 11TH NIGHT!

11.30pm
Under The Arch, Kilkeel Town Centre
(Performance of Lambeg Drummers)

Why not come along and enjoy the largest Ulster-Scots Festival anywhere in the world!

The Schomberg Society's Hairtlan Festival in the Kingdom of Mourne Proudly Celebrating our Ulster-Scots Culture, Heritage and Traditions!



The signing of the Regium Donum by King William at Hillsborough



Many banners feature images of the Battle of the Somme

The Stories on the Banners

It is said a picture is worth a thousand words – a phrase that is particularly applicable to Orange banners. The paintings, which contain symbols of faith, culture and identity, are often a rich source of social history relating to the geographical home of the lodge or important local events.

Many other fraternal and benevolent societies carry banners, including trade unions and professional guilds – but given the numerical strength of Orange Lodges in Ulster and indeed Scotland, the Orange banner is an instantly recognisable sight. Banners are traditionally painted by hand by a small number of local artists on a heavy silk material. The purchase of a new banner is a significant financial and historical milestone for any Lodge.



JM Andrews became Grand Master of the Orange Institution after his premiership

As well as the main imagery, each banner will include the name of the Lodge and the District to which it belongs. Many Lodges have very specific histories – formed for example by those who worshipped in the same church, neighbours from the same townland or village, or those who worked in the same trade.

The predominant image on the 'front' of Orange banners is, of course, King William III – who is usually portrayed on horseback at the Battle of the Boyne. However, a great many local stories are told on the 'reverse' of banners and these paintings often provide an insight into the local identity and ethos of the Lodge. Many important events which resonate with the Ulster-Scots community including the Siege of Londonderry, the Battle of Newtownbutler, the signing of the Regium Donum by King William at Hillsborough, the Act of Union and the signing of the Ulster Covenant can all be found portrayed on banners.

A great many feature images of the



A GREAT MANY LOCAL STORIES ARE TOLD ON THE 'REVERSE' OF BANNERS AND THESE PAINTINGS SHOW THE IDENTITY AND ETHOS OF THE LODGE.

Battle of the Somme and the attack of the 36th (Ulster) Division on 1st July 1916. Many Lodges lost members during the Great War and it remains commonplace to see this sacrifice remembered in this way. The official historian of the Ulster Division, Cyril Falls, highlighted the covenanting lineage of the Division's

members and highlighted the many lowland Scottish surnames which were prevalent in the ranks.

Other Lodges were formed and named in memory of individuals of local and indeed national significance – many of whom were from Ulster-Scots descent.

Chief designer of the Titanic Thomas Andrews Jnr is remembered by LOL 1321 in East Belfast. Political leaders such as Edward Carson and James Craig are often portrayed as well as important Presbyterian churchmen like Rev Henry Cooke – viewed by many as the 'father of Ulster unionism'.



Lodges were sometimes formed by those who worshipped in the same church



Chief designer of the Titanic Thomas Andrews Jnr is remembered by LOL 1321 in East Belfast

The Glorious Revolution – still shaping the free world

“The Revolution of 1688-89 turned out to be a bold step forward for guaranteed liberties.” – Michael Barone

The legacy of the Glorious Revolution continues to shape our lives today. Its principles are the bedrock on which modern constitutional democracy is based. The American and French Revolutions both owe their motivation, in part, to the changes that occurred in the British Isles between 1688 and 1691. Central to these changes was William, Prince of Orange, who became King William III.

A new exhibition, *LIBERTY, Christ, Crown and Constitution*, explores the background and events that led to the Glorious Revolution and demonstrates how its principles continue to form the basis for so many of the freedoms we enjoy today. At times, the importance of these events, and the legacy they inspired, have been obscured and twisted by circumstance.

Not only was the revolution a triumph of liberty over arbitrary power but it embedded freedom. A Bill of Rights, and associated legislation, has ensured that the revolution became both an enduring and evolving settlement.

Crucially the Glorious Revolution was not just a revolution by, or for, the elite, but a popular rising in favour of something new. The consequence was significant constitutional change that continues to shape the free world to this day. The Loyal Orange Institution sees itself as an heir and custodian of the revolution and has an affinity with this period in history because

By Jonathan Mattison,
Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland

their forefathers fought to secure the Glorious Revolution.

Influencing the ideas of Liberty

“This Bible is for the government of the people, by the people and for the people.”
– John Wycliffe

The concept of Liberty has been at the heart of political dialogue for centuries. Its meaning and application have continually changed, but at its core has been the gradual liberation of the individual within a wider framework of societal good. One of the most profound advances was during the Glorious Revolution when liberty was at last guaranteed by legislation. The original manifesto of liberty, and embodiment of moral code for society, was bequeathed to the Children of Israel who had just fled tyranny and slavery in ancient Egypt – the Ten Commandments. A link was established between Christianity and liberty that was strengthened by the Reformation.

The two Scottish Covenants were influential on the political climate of the British Isles in the 17th Century. They influenced John Locke and others whose ideas had a profound impact on the Glorious Revolution period. These two Covenanting documents (1638 and 1643) were assertions for civil and religious freedom.

The importance of these documents was not just their content but their

emphasis on contractual relationships. As John Locke would explain in his *Treatises on Government* (1689), everyone had certain natural rights and liberties that they charged rulers and governments to look after in their best interest. If this social contract was broken, through the passing of dictatorial legislation, then the people had the right to rebel. This became a strong justification for acting against James II during the Glorious Revolution.

The concept of contractual or conditional loyalty would be borne out in future struggles. It was used by the American colonists during the drive for independence, and by Unionists, embedded as it was in the Ulster Solemn League and Covenant (1912).

The people who shaped Liberty

“The Sands of Time are Sinking.” – Samuel Rutherford

The 17th century was a profound period of change. The Plantation of Ulster, the English Civil War, and the restoration of the monarchy (after the disastrous period of the Commonwealth and its flirtation with republicanism) all served to create a highly politicised population. This provided fertile ground for ideas of liberty.

The Scottish Presbyterian Minister, Samuel Rutherford (1600 – 1661), was often at odds with the political and religious establishment, arguing that the people were sovereign, under God, and only granted the government or king permission to safeguard their rights. If a corrupt administration failed in this duty, then the people could rebel. Such a view found a platform in his writings, especially *Lex, Rex* (the Law and the King), and would shape the ideas of other key figures such as John Locke, the writer and thinker. He believed that all laws should apply equally to every citizen and not favour any sectional interest. Although he helped formulate the Bill of Rights, Locke was disappointed that it did not include much wider religious toleration.

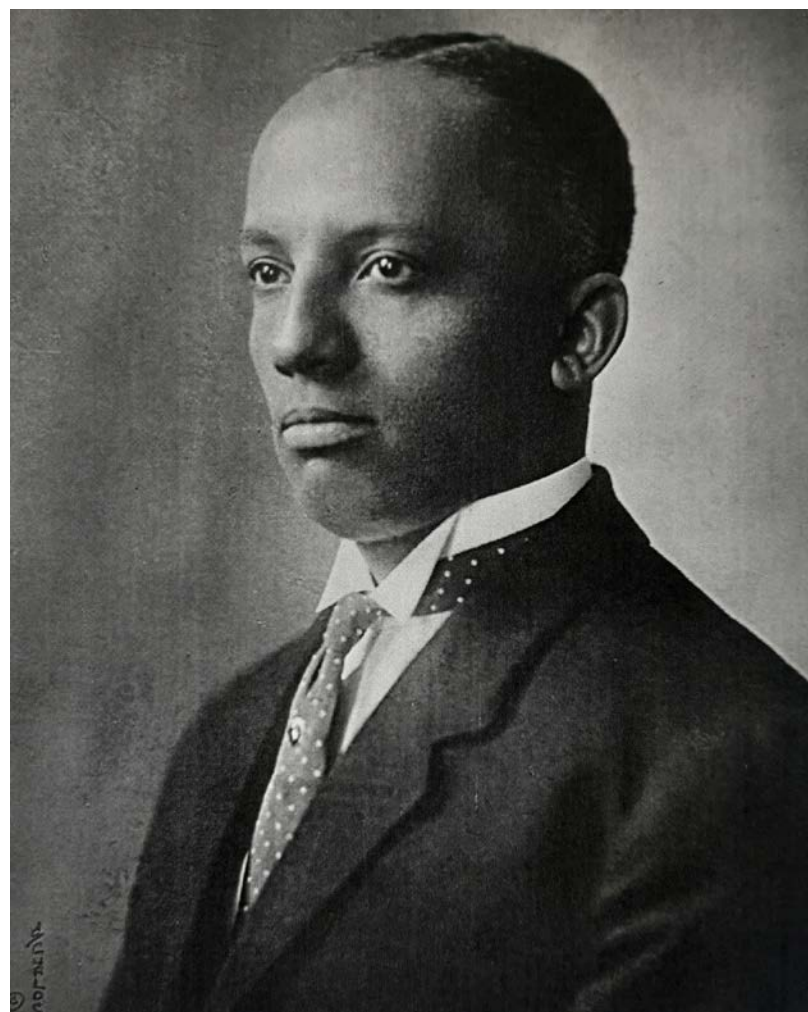
Adoption of the social contract, as a responsible framework for governing, became a core principle in representative democracies across the World.

Almost 90 years after William's Declaration, and the passing of the Bill of Rights, the American Declaration of Independence was brought into being. The principles espoused by John Locke and others became embedded in the aspirations of the American Colonists. Many of those who fought in the War of Independence were descended from those who had fought from Londonderry to Limerick; they would fight from Valley Forge to Yorktown, as part of the Continental Army.

This spirit was embodied by the frontier preacher and educator Rev David Caldwell. Originally from Donegal, he drew parallels between the fight to secure the Glorious Revolution and the struggle for Independence: *“...our Forefathers...sacrificed at Londonderry and Enniskillen...(in)...defence of their rights...(and)...set us an example.”* Liberty had to be earned.

A Way of Life

The 18th-Century movement of people from Ulster to north America was also a movement of ideas. These Ulster-Scots



Carter G Woodson, the Father of Black History



George Buchanan, by Arnold Van Brounchorst

were steeped in the traditions and ideals of the Covenanters, John Locke, and a host of others who had shaped the Glorious Revolution. But this was more than just an intellectual heritage, it was intrinsic to their very way of life.

Carter G Woodson, the Father of Black History, pointed out that his Scotch-Irish neighbours were “God-fearing, Sabbath-keeping, covenant-adhering, liberty-loving and tyrant-hating race...” who had absorbed the teachings of Buchanan, Calvin and others in order to “...emphasize equality, freedom of conscience, and political liberty...” in all aspects of their life.

The memory of events in Ireland between 1688 and 1691 migrated to North America with the movement of people, especially the Ulster-Scots. Amongst their number were clergy who would help translate their inherited values and beliefs, but also reinforce the legacy of sacrifice that had secured it. One such minister was

Rev. James M'Gregor from Aghadoey. He and his congregation founded the town of Londonderry in New Hampshire. McGregor had survived the siege and upon his death in 1729 requested that only others who had defended Londonderry should carry his coffin.

The Overmountain Men

In 1780, during the War of Independence, the Overmountain Men mustered at Sycamore Shoals in Tennessee prior to engaging with Loyalist troops in the Battle of King's Mountain. At that muster a Presbyterian Minister of Ulster-Scots descent, Rev Samuel Doak, rallied the men. His sermon reflected their grievances, accusing the King's Government of acting against the liberties secured during the Glorious Revolution – *“Taxation without representation and the quartering of* (Continued on page 13)

LIBERTY
CHRIST, CROWN AND CONSTITUTION
1689
BILL OF RIGHTS

**FREE EXHIBITION
NOW OPEN**

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CONTACT: 02890 701122
INFO@ORANGEHERITAGE.CO.UK

OPEN MON-SAT, 10AM-5PM (LAST ENTRANCE 4PM)
CONTACT US TO BOOK GROUP VISITS

MUSEUM OF ORANGE HERITAGE
WWW.ORANGEHERITAGE.CO.UK

Find Us On Facebook @OrangeHeritage

What's in PRONI's archive for the Declaration of Independence Ulster-Scots display

By Brett Irwin

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) and the Ulster-Scots Agency are hosting an online talk at 4pm on July 4, 2023, entitled *Declaration and Dissent: The American Revolutionary War*. The event, celebrating PRONI's centenary, complements the public display of the Declaration of Independence until July 24, 2023.



Mark Thompson, who curated the exhibition at PRONI, will explore stories from the Declaration and PRONI archivist, Brett Irwin, will look at some surprising archives relating to the conflict and Ulster-Scots voices who fought in the war that changed the world will be heard. Documents from PRONI's archives that will feature include a letter from George Washington concerning the threat from a British Fleet during the American War of



This colourful 'Virginia Revolutionary War Map 1774-1783' clearly illustrates the campaigns, major actors and features some fine examples of colonial architecture



Illustration of the Boston Tea Party

Independence. It also includes a memorandum on the life of John Dunlap written c.1820. Born in Strabane, County Tyrone, in 1746, Dunlap emigrated to America, settling in Philadelphia and becoming one of the most extensive printers in the country. He was printer to the Convention which met in Philadelphia before the Revolution, and to Congress. John was the first person to publish the Declaration of

Independence. He served with the Philadelphia Cavalry during the war. Other fascinating items include an illustration of the Boston Tea Party. The Tea Act was imposed on colonial citizens, stifling free trade and leaving them to the monopoly of the East India Company. On December 16, 1773, Bostonians boarded three British ships and threw 342 chests of tea overboard so they would not pay tax on the tea. Parliament closed

Boston harbour and suspended the Massachusetts Congress until the tea was paid for. This was one of the key events that paved the way to war. All the archival material is used with permission from the Deputy Keeper of Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI). To register for the Declaration and Dissent: The American Revolutionary War free online talk, visit PRONI's Eventbrite site.

soldiers...are evidence that the Crown of England would take from its American subjects the last vestige of Freedom."

Doak finished with a prayer, the wording of which still echoes in Orange Lodge rooms - "Confound those who plot for our destruction... Help us as good soldiers to wield the Sword of the Lord and of Gideon."

These were men descended from those who had fought to secure the liberty of the Glorious Revolution. They had lived by these principles; their clergy had preached sermons about them, and now professors in powerhouse colleges such as William and Mary College in Virginia (1693) and the University of Pennsylvania, reinforced them for a new generation.

At least five of those who signed the Declaration of Independence were descended from Ulster families; Matthew Thornton, James Smith, Edward Rutledge, Thomas McLean, and George Taylor. John Dunlap, from Strabane, printed the document itself and Charles Thomson, from Maghera, wrote the Declaration of Independence and designed the Great Seal of America.

The Glorious Revolution shifted the balance of power from a single ruler to a representative parliament. This change became a fixture of democratic government, along with the notion of a separation of powers between State, the Judiciary and the Church.

In the New World, the idea that the people commanded legitimate power, would flourish, first in the American Revolution and later in the Civil Rights Movement.

Francis Allison

One of the key figures in shaping the notion of Liberty in the American Colonies was Francis Allison. Born at Leck, near Letterkenny, he emigrated to north America in 1735 after completing his studies in Glasgow, attending classes by Francis Hutcheson, the father of the Scottish Enlightenment, and quickly established an academy in Philadelphia.

As a Presbyterian minister, teacher and thinker, he would have a profound impact on radical politics, with Benjamin Franklin describing him as a "...man of great ingenuity and learning." He was involved in creating a number of schools and colleges and laying the foundations for the future University of Delaware. At least three of his students would go on to sign the American Declaration of Independence, with many more enlisting in the Continental Army to fight for Independence.

The Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968)

Just as the American Colonists had felt the British Government had reneged on their inheritance of the Revolution, so African Americans felt the same could be said of the American Government, 100 years after



THERE COMES A TIME WHEN A MORAL MAN CAN'T OBEY A LAW WHICH HIS CONSCIENCE TELLS HIM IS UNJUST.

Martin Luther King Jr

conscience tells him is unjust." - Martin Luther King Jr

The American Civil Rights Movement took up the baton of legitimate rebellion against corrupt government. It was yet another ripple from 1689 and the idea of liberty was difficult to oppose; especially when it encouraged hope and nurtured aspiration.

Between 1954 and 1968, the Civil Rights Movement championed a nonviolent agenda to achieve political and social reform in the United States. A twin process was adopted to achieve equality - civil disobedience and legal action. The goal was an end to disenfranchisement, exploitation, and segregation. The vehicle was mass action. A series of legal and constitutional victories would set US society on a course where, eventually, all citizens would be able to claim they were "Free at Last, Free at Last."

As in many societies and democracies since 1689, the cause of

emancipation at the height of the American Civil War (1863). This forced the hand of those who had been left out, and the American Civil Rights Movement was born.

"There comes a time when a moral man can't obey a law which his



American First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt's belief in equality drew admiration

true Liberty is ever evolving and ever achieving.

A strong American woman would be involved in the advancement of Liberty still further: Eleanor Roosevelt. With an Ulster-Scots ancestry hailing from Gleno, County Antrim, Eleanor was the longest serving First Lady and had a profound impact on world freedom. She was a driving force behind her husband's political career, but her own belief in equality and equity drew admiration from many. President Truman appointed her as a delegate to the United Nations and she was to the forefront of creating the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

A Lasting Inheritance

The Glorious Revolution was one of the most important watershed moments in

modern history. Few events before or since have commanded such a positive constitutional legacy, shaping the very nature of how we live today.

The Glorious Revolution enshrined Liberty under the law, a concept universally embraced by all democratic societies. It also acted as a spur to ideas; ideas and principles for which many were prepared to sacrifice all.

Many of the civil rights and liberties we hold dear owe their origins to the Glorious Revolution, and its associated constitutional settlement. It heralded a shift in the balance of power between monarch and parliament. Since the introduction of the Bill of Rights, representative democracy, through a parliament or legislature, has become the template for all modern democratic societies. Our Revolution laid the bedrock for freedom.

Its core principles and ideals would influence movements, organisations, revolutions, and constitutional change for the next 300 years. The American Declaration of Independence (1776), Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), and the European Convention on Human Rights (1953), were all built on the basic civil and social liberties laid down during the Glorious Revolution.

In terms of the British Isles, Parliament has continued to expand its power, at the expense of the monarchy. Importantly, this power is accountable through our representative democracy. Regular elections have become the modern vehicle through which contractual and conditional loyalty can be exercised by the people.

Ballyclare May Fair revived with Ulster-Scots to the fore

The centuries old annual Ballyclare May Fair recently returned to the town with a week filled with exciting festivities. The Ulster-Scots Agency was delighted to partner with Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council for a programme of Ulster-Scots activities, events and workshops to promote the culture, heritage and language as part of the May Fair programme.

Ballyclare town is steeped in Ulster-Scots history and visitors enjoyed Ulster-Scots walking tours, a film screening, Ulster-Scots language and Highland dance workshops and storytelling for schools and an Ulster-Scots Ceilidh with the Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band.

The Ulster-Scots tradition of hymn writing was also celebrated with

a Songs of Praise event – a special evening hosted by the BBC's Mark Thompson at Ballyclare Presbyterian Church. Nelson McCausland provided a pre-show talk for the film 'Allegheny Uprising' and for the foodies there was an Ulster/Scotch History of Whisk(e)y night and an evening of Cooking and Crack with Paula McIntyre featuring demonstrations and tastings.

The Ulster-Scots Agency also attended four outdoor markets where staff had the opportunity to distribute literature and promotional items and engage with visitors to the May Fair.

The Fair was a great success and the Ulster-Scots Agency looks forward to working in partnership with Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council on the Ballyclare May Fair again in future years.



Cooking and Crack with Paula McIntyre



The audience enjoying Paula McIntyre's cookery demonstration



The Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band at the Ulster-Scots Ceilidh



Ulster-Scots Agency CEO Ian Crozier and the Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, Stephen Ross



The Ulster-Scots Language and Dance Workshop



The Ulster-Scots Songs of Praise event



Children enjoying the Ulster-Scots Language and Dance Workshop



An Ulster 'Scotch' Whiskey evening with Mary McAuley



Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey, Councillor Stephen Ross, with Ulster-Scots Agency staff Jacqueline Purse and Gail McCullough

Groundbreaking library celebrates 150 years

The Gamble Library, the Province's largest theological library, celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. The Library's history and collections have strong links with, and are representative of, the Ulster-Scots community and culture. The Library is owned by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The majority of Presbyterians trace their ancestral line back to Scotland since it was the Plantation of Ulster which brought many Scottish settlers to Ireland in the 1600s. These Scottish settlers brought their faith with them and, as a result, the first Presbytery was formed in Carrickfergus in 1642. The Irish Presbyterian Church grew in the centuries following, but links with Scotland remained vigorous. For example, the Irish Presbyterian Church had to send those who wanted to train for the ministry to Scottish universities until the 19th century.

When the Presbyterian Church in Ireland was created in 1840 there was a desire to establish a library which would resource trainee ministers, their lecturers, and the wider Church. Professor James Seaton Reid, Professor

at Assembly's College and later at Glasgow University, and author of The History of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, was one of the Committee who advocated for the creation of a library.

Women pioneer collections

It was Mrs Caroline Anne Gamble (1818-1894) of Ashburn in Gourock, Scotland, widow of Rev Henry Gamble, the former minister of Ballywalter Presbyterian Church, who provided the funds required to achieve this. Her generous donation of £1,500 was used to found the Gamble Library in 1873 in memory of her second husband. The Common Hall of Assembly's College was remodelled as a library and 2,500 new books were purchased. These books were added to the Church's existing collections.

The Library has received many donations from members of the Ulster-Scots community. On his death Professor Reid's books were deposited in the Gamble Library and remain part of its special collections. Rev Edith Sinclair Martin, the first woman to complete a Bachelor of Divinity at Assembly's College in 1930, donated her books to the Library. One



An exhibition on the Gamble Library's history may be seen in the Library from 08.30am-4.30pm, Monday to Friday until the end of July. Accompanying free commemorative exhibition leaflets are available from the Gamble Library and the Discover Ulster-Scots Centre

of the famous Sinclair family she was ordained as a minister by the United Free Church of Scotland in 1931 and served as a minister in Aberdeen and Perth. She was Honorary Assistant Librarian from 1938 to 1946.

Home to NI Parliament

The Gamble Library hosted the first

Parliament of Northern Ireland from 1921-1932. Glasgow University's Principal Rait gave the lecture at the re-opening of the College.

The collections contain documents relating to the history of the Irish Presbyterian Church such as Presbytery minutes from the 1650s

onwards, books which early Scottish settlers would have used like Geneva Bibles, as well as rare books by Francis Hutcheson, Jonathan Swift and other important Ulster-Scots. The main reading rooms contain literature that tells the story of the Ulster-Scots community.

The Gamble Library, Union Theological College has benefited significantly from its partnership with the Ulster-Scots Agency. The Agency's

support has enabled many important projects such as the purchase of state-of-the-art exhibition cases, the creation of a 25-year Conservation Plan, the acquisition of new books to facilitate historical research, and the repair of the Library's famous domed ceiling.

Siege stories, music and dance at the Maiden City Festival

The Maiden City Festival will run within and on the city walls of Londonderry from August 5-12, 2023.

The 25th anniversary of the festival will host The Siege Tales with historical characters promenading on the walls, telling their stories of the ordinary people of the famous siege of 1688-89. Also, on the walls there will be piping, drumming and Highland dance displays throughout the day. There is further drama in St Columb's Cathedral where The Story of The Siege is performed three times a day at 11.30am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm, recounting events from the closing of the gates to the breaking of the boom.

The Maiden City Highland Dance Competition takes place in The Memorial Hall on Saturday, August 5. Other events in

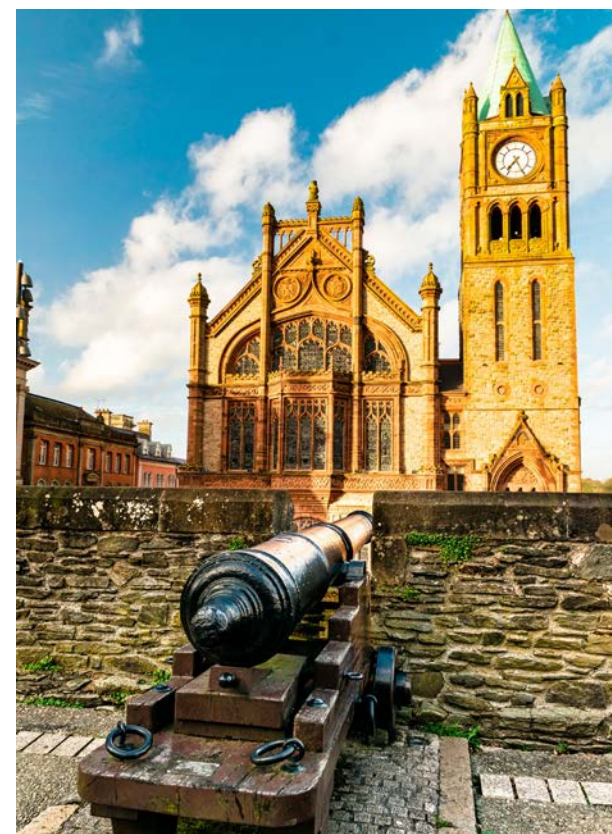


the hall include the Ulster-Scots evening on Tuesday, August 8, a talk on the history of the Siege by Tim McGarry and Dr David Hume on Wednesday, August 9, and the 25th anniversary concert featuring Baron Accordion Band, Bready Ulster-Scots Band and Omagh Protestant Boys on Thursday, August 10.

City Centre cafes will host the popular Culture Bites series between noon and

2pm daily and Old Time Tea Dances in the Memorial ushers back the era of yester-year when the Memorial Hall was a popular dance hall venue for the community.

For further details on the programme for The Maiden City Festival celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, pick up a copy of the next edition of The Ulster-Scot newspaper published on Saturday, July 29.



Cash prizes for prose and poetry winners

The Linen Hall is thrilled to announce the upcoming Ulster-Scots Writing Competition, in collaboration with the generous support of the Ulster-Scots Agency. This exciting literary event will take place this Summer, celebrating and showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the Ulster-Scots community.

The competition will feature two categories, prose and poetry, providing a platform for aspiring writers to showcase their talent. Each category will have a coveted £500 cash prize for the winner, while one runner-up from each section will be awarded £250.

The winners will be revealed during Ulster-Scots Language Week in November 2023, and their entries will be published in a special edition anthology. We are honoured to have a distinguished panel of judges,



including Dr Frank Ferguson, Ally Heather, and Dr Carol Baraniuk, who will lend their expertise to the adjudication process.

Entrants are encouraged to submit their work by Thursday, August 31, at 5pm, adhering to the Ulster-Scots

Writing Competition entry guidelines. For more detailed information and to submit entries, please visit our website: www.linenhall.com/ulster-scots-writing-competition.

Linen Hall Director, Julie Andrews, said: "The Ulster-Scots writing competition shines a spotlight on emerging talent within the vibrant Ulster-Scots community. At The Linen Hall, we take great pride in preserving a significant collection of Ulster-Scots language holdings, including the world's largest collection of Scots poet Robert Burns items outside of Scotland. As we enter the third year of this competition, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Ulster-Scots Agency for their continued sponsorship, enabling us to nurture and showcase the rich literary heritage of the Ulster-Scots tradition."

Gillian Pearson, Director of Development at the Ulster-Scots Agency, added: "We are delighted to partner with The Linen Hall for the Ulster-Scots Writing Competition again this year and to continue fostering and encouraging the tradition of Ulster-Scots writing. This

competition, now in its third year, offers a welcome opportunity both to highlight and promote contemporary Ulster-Scots writers and hopefully inspire others to re-engage with the language as well. We hope that many members of the Ulster-Scots community will submit their poetry

and prose pieces to the competition – no matter how experienced a writer you are, enter the competition. You could be one of our next Ulster-Scots Writing Competition winners announced at the awards ceremony in The Linen Hall Library during Ulster-Scots Language Week in November."

THE LINEN HALL
ULSTER-SCOTS
WRITING COMPETITION

28 JUNE - 31 AUGUST

With the support of the Ulster-Scots Agency, we will be hosting our highly anticipated third annual Ulster-Scots Writing Competition. This year's competition will feature two distinct categories, offering participants a chance to compete in either poetry or prose. To find out more visit The Linen Hall website: www.linenhall.com/ulster-scots-writing-competition

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HIGHLAND DANCERS AT 2:30PM

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BELFAST

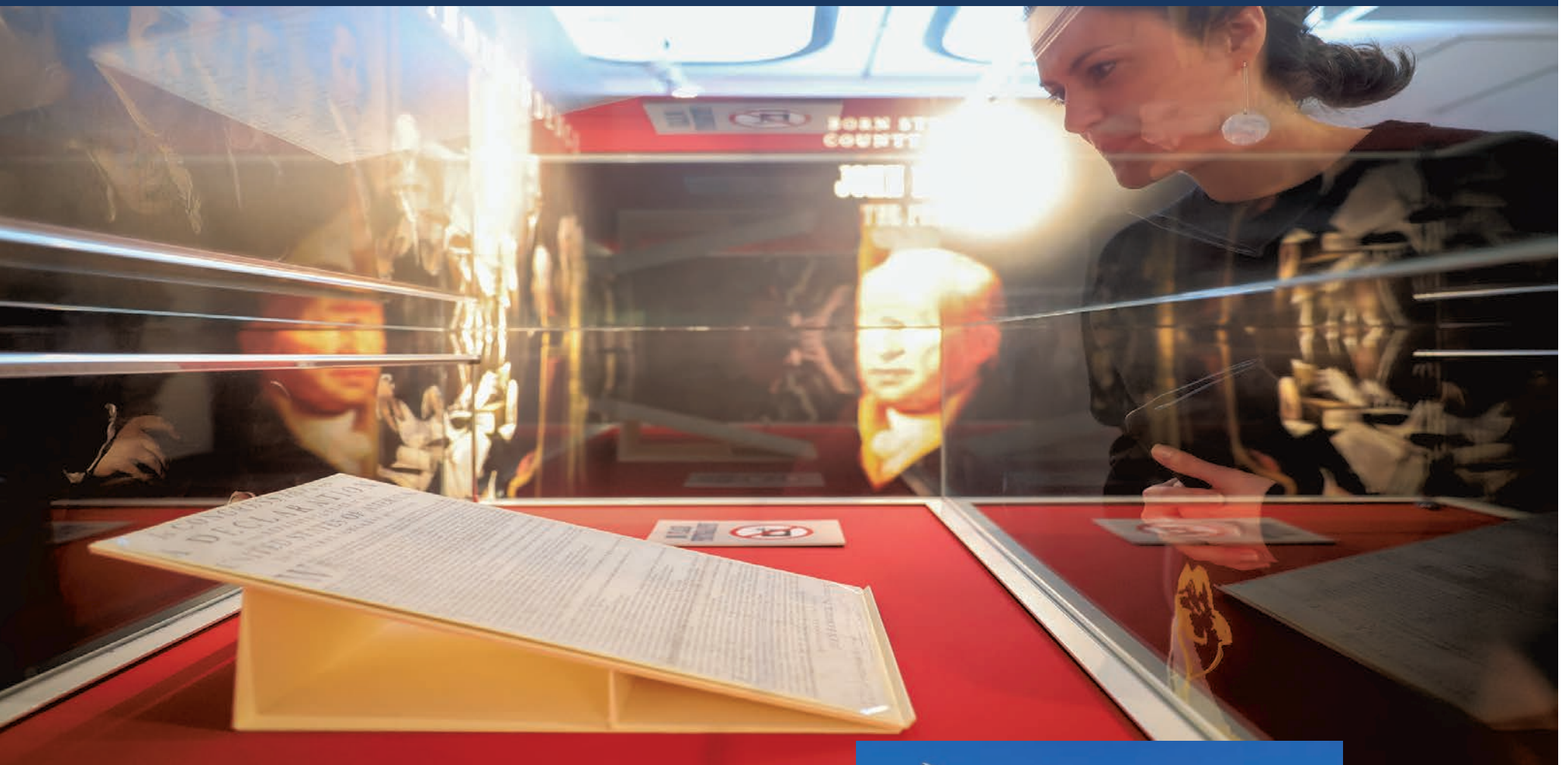
JULY 01
11 AM - 4 PM

Lambeg Drum Shell Wanted

An Ulster based Lambeg Drum enthusiast is looking for an old shell by either Mark Hewitt or William Johnston & Sons, Belfast to purchase. If you have an old shell and are willing to sell it, contact the Ulster-Scots Agency by emailing info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk or telephone (028) 9023 1113.

SEE THE ORIGINAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

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