



WIN... A FAMILY PASS TO THE DALRIADA FESTIVAL. PAGE 16

Tracing Belfast's rich maritime heritage



The Ulster-Scots Agency and partner Ministerial Advisory Group Ulster-Scots Academy have launched the Belfast Maritime Trail

SEE PAGES 8&9



Symposium exploring the Irish-Scottish world in the Middle Ages

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Marking the anniversary of the Somme with the launch of *Paul Pollock's War*

PAGE 11



Newtownabbey's White House has been restored into a visitor centre and multi-purpose space

PAGE 13

Fair faa ye



Welcome to the July 2015 edition of the **Ulster-Scot**.

The Ulster Scots Agency has recently launched the Belfast Maritime Trail as part of the Tall Ships festival 2015 - the trail highlights the links between the Ulster Scots and Belfast's maritime history and free copies can be obtained from the Discover Ulster Scots visitor centre.

To mark the 99th anniversary of the battle of the Somme, the Ulster Scots Agency has launched its most recent publication Paul Pollock's War. You can read more about the launch and how to obtain your free copy of the book on **Page 11**.

The Agency would also like to congratulate the children who took part in our recent graduation ceremony at Stormont. Over 230 pupils gained their Foundation Certificate in Piping and Drumming on 18th June 2015 a massive increase from the 2012 ceremony where 24 pupils received certificates. Congratulations to all those involved! You can find out more on **Page 6**.

Also in this edition we have a wonderful recipe from Judith McLaughlin for boozy Bailey's cheesecake – you can find this on **Page 12**.

As always we welcome your feedback and hope that everyone finds something of interest in this edition.

Ian Crozier is Chief Executive of the Ulster-Scots Agency



New exhibition charts the origins of Ulster-Scots heritage here



North Down Museum has launched its newly-refurbished Plantation Room and Gallery, having received funding from the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and the Ulster-Scots Agency.

The gallery tells the story of the two men, James Hamilton and Hugh Montgomery, who were awarded lands from King James 1st at the start of the 17th Century. Both men advertised offers of low rent in their newly acquired estates and the first lowland Scottish settlers arrived in Donaghadee at this time.

With it saw the beginnings of the Ulster-Scots heritage and influence on the area, one which would soon spread from Craigtantlet and Holywood through the Peninsula to Killyleagh.

The exhibition goes on to explore the mapping of these estates through the Raven Maps, the only complete Folio



of Plantation Maps in the country. The bound originals are on display and have also been digitised allowing visitors to investigate them in detail via an interactive touchscreen. Finally, the exhibition looks closer at the history of Bangor Castle and its reincarnation through the three buildings built by the Hamilton and Ward families over the centuries alongside the architectural legacy on Bangor by these families. The third and final Bangor Castle which stands today is presented

in a unique fashion as it has been immortalised in sugar cubes by the renowned artist, Brendan Jamison. The architectural legacy of Bangor by these families is also studied. The exhibition is a permanent feature of North Down Museum. Opening hours are Tuesday - Saturdays 10am-4.30pm, Sundays 12pm-4.30pm, closed Mondays. Admission free. For more information visit www.northdownmuseum.com or phone 028 91271200.

The Ulster-Scot

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Ulster-Scots Agency
Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

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WORD OF THE ISSUE

Drooth

Meaning:
Thirst

Publishers release new edition of timeless classic

THE legend of Betsy Gray simply refuses to die. For more than 200 years her story has continued to fascinate.

At first it was passed down orally from generation to generation until WG Lyttle, proprietor of the *North Down Herald* and *Bangor Gazette*, used it as the basis for a novel that he started to serialise in his newspaper in 1885.

Three years later it was published as a book - *Betsy Gray, or Hearts of Down: A Tale of Ninety-Eight*.

Lyttle's account was highly dramatic and partly fictional, designed initially to sell copies of his paper, but his genuine enthusiasm for the story was evident in his writing and he had taken the time to discover many local family histories connected to the stirring events of which he wrote.

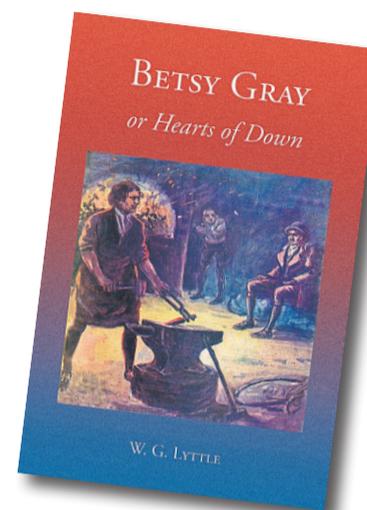
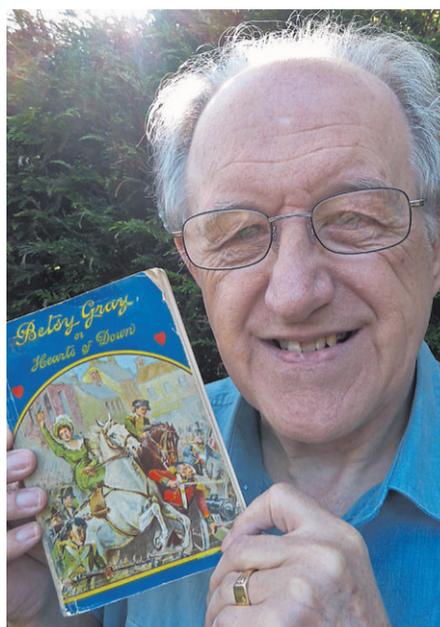
Who Betsy really was, where she came from, and even if she ever existed at all, are now subjects of dispute. But Lyttle was in no doubt as to her identity, and there are others today who believe that the balance of evidence clearly points to her being a young woman from Gransha, near the Six Road Ends in Bangor, who rode to the Battle of Ballynahinch in 1798 in the company of her brother George and her lover, Willy Boal.

The popularity of Lyttle's novel *Betsy Gray* has never waned. The exact number of editions published to date is uncertain, but it is definitely into double figures, and yet in recent times copies of the book have been notably hard to find at a reasonable price.

With this in mind, Bangor publisher Books Ulster has made it available in print again, adding an introduction to the author and his work, a few additional footnotes, and a glossary of Ulster-Scots words used in the dialogue.

The new edition also contains an essay on the legend of *Betsy Gray* by Kenneth Robinson, a librarian, author, and Lyttle enthusiast. The photograph of W. G. Lyttle used for the frontispiece is reproduced by kind permission of the author's great-grandson AG Lyttle. He said: "I'm so pleased that Books Ulster is re-issuing *Betsy Gray* and WG's other works for today's generation to discover the timeless charm of the fireside tale and the quaint dialect of the true *Hearts of Down*."

Derek Rowlinson of Books Ulster said: "I was particularly keen to put this title back in print. I've read the book many times over the years and it still intrigues me. Yes, it can be a bit sentimental and melodramatic in parts - that's the way much literature was back then - but at the same time it really gives a sense



AG Lyttle pictured with one of his great grandfather's most popular novels, *Betsy Gray*

of the drama and upheaval of the period: of the fears, suspicions, as well as the horrors of the '98 rebellion.

"Some of the anecdotes in the book are obviously based on what the author was told by descendants of those who suffered in the conflict, and those are truly gripping. But I'm especially tantalised to know what became of the artefacts and mementos that Lyttle mentions in the book, like Betsy's sword. Where are they now? Could some still be traced, I wonder?"

Although a number of scenes in the book were necessarily the product of the author's imagination, most, if not all of the characters were real and the events portrayed founded on fact.

Mat M'Clenaghan really did have a blacksmith's shop at the Six Road Ends where he forged pike heads; James Dillon of Drumawhey did run a pub and inform

of the United Irishmen in the area; Nick Maginn of Saintfield was an officially recorded informer too; and the fate at the hands of the insurgents of the loyalist M'Kee family of that town is well attested in the annals of the time. The rancour and bitterness between the rival factions within local communities lasted a very long time after the 1798 rebellion. Lyttle made no secret of where his sympathies lay. He was a United Irishman through and through.

► This latest edition of *Betsy Gray* (ISBN: 978-1-910375-21-1) is available from amazon.co.uk at approximately £8.75. Books Ulster has recently reprinted W. G. Lyttle's other two novels—*Sons of the Sod: A Tale of County Down* (ISBN: 978-1-910375-19-8) and *Daft Eddie or the Smugglers of Strangford Lough: A Tale of Killinchy* (ISBN: 978-1-910375-23-5). All three books are also available as Kindle downloads.

Remembering the bravery of a local WW1 hero

A memorial parade has taken place and a blue plaque unveiled at a ceremony in Newmills, Co Tyrone, to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of 23-year-old Private Robert Morrow VC, who lost his life near Messines while saving others on April 12, 1915.

Under heavy enemy fire, he rescued and carried several men to safety who had been buried in the debris of trenches wrecked by shellfire.

The private in the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Fusiliers, was killed in action two weeks later at St Jan on the Ypres Salient, Belgium. Wreaths were laid at Private Morrow's memorial in Newmills in a ceremony which was attended by members of the Ulster Scots Agency, Royal British Legion, politicians and local dignitaries.

Robert Morrow was born and raised on a farm near Newmills, Dungannon, the son of Hugh and Margaret Morrow. He joined the 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Fusiliers at Armagh in 1911 and after basic training went with the Battalion to England. In August 1914 the Battalion was ordered to join the British Expeditionary Force and embark for France; Robert was then aged 23.

A quiet, disciplined, hard working soldier and small in stature, he did not look like a hero, yet when his battalion was fighting, he knew no fear.

"Private Morrow dug six soldiers out and carried them to safety, returning each time to see whom else he could help. For this outstanding act of bravery, his name was put forward for a Victoria Cross."



"Conspicuous bravery": The late Private Robert Morrow was awarded the Victoria Cross for his acts of heroism in World War One

One of his typical exploits happened when he and his friends were in trenches at Messines. Everyone was very thirsty and to get water meant crossing open ground in clear view of German snipers. Private Morrow volunteered to go and, carrying a two-gallon stone rum jar, he ran to the farm and filled the jar, dodging bullets there and back. Just as he jumped back into the trench a bullet hit the jar he

was holding and the water was lost. Calmly, Private Morrow grabbed some water bottles and made another trip, again dodging, and managing to escape every German bullet. On 12 April 1915, the 1st Battalion were in trenches below Messines Ridge when Private Morrow's Company lines came under heavy and accurate shellfire, burying several of the soldiers when the trenches collapsed.

Ignoring the shells landing around him, Private Morrow dug six soldiers out and carried them to safety, returning each time to see whom else he could help. For this outstanding act of bravery, his name was put forward for a Victoria Cross. Less than two weeks later he was badly wounded at St Julien and died of his wounds the following day on 26 April 1915. His grave is in White House Cemetery near Ypres.

His award of the Victoria Cross appeared in *The London Gazette* dated 21 May 1915 and the citation read as follows:

"No. 10531 Private Robert Morrow, 1st Battalion, Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers). For most conspicuous bravery near Messines on 12th April, 1915, when he rescued and carried successively to places of comparative safety, several men who had been buried in the debris of trenches wrecked by shell fire. Private Morrow carried out this gallant work on his own initiative, and under very heavy fire from the enemy."

King George V presented the Victoria Cross to his mother at Buckingham Palace. Tsar Nicholas of Russia also awarded Private Morrow the Medal of St George for his selfless act of bravery.

The regiment raised over £100 to give to the Morrow family. Knowing the high esteem in which her son had been held, Mrs Morrow presented the Victoria Cross to the Regiment in his memory.

Hollywood-Bangor railway line marks 150 years...

CELEBRATIONS have taken place at a number of North Down venues to mark the 150th anniversary of the Hollywood to Bangor railway line.

Steeped in history, the railway in North Down has come a long way since construction was completed by the Belfast, Hollywood and Bangor Railway Company (BHBR) in 1865 when the population of Bangor was less than 3,000.

In the past decade alone, passenger numbers on the Bangor railway line have grown by 89 per cent, and today the line is thriving with over 2.87 million passenger journeys made in 2014/15. Customers today can choose from 100 services per day and six departures per hour during peak times.

Gemma McMurray, Translink NI Railways route manager for the Bangor Line, said: "During this special anniversary year, we want more people to explore North Down by train and enjoy all the excellent attractions situated along the route.

"Stop off in Hollywood town centre and browse the speciality boutiques, step back in time at Cultra's Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, blow away the cobwebs at Crawfordsburn Country Park, explore Grey Point Fort at Helen's Bay, soak up the fun at Bangor's Pickie Fun Park and Aurora Aquatic



Complex or relax in the serenity of Bangor Castle Walled Garden.

"We really enjoyed the station celebrations at the weekend and would like to thank everyone involved including North Down Model Railway Society and First Bangor Model Railway Society, the Ulster-Scots Agency, who supplied historical characters, and The Salt House and Steam Coffee and Bake House as well as 'Station News' who supplied all the complimentary treats.

"We would also like to thank Robin Masefield and Ards and North Down Borough Council for their kind support. We're now looking forward to welcoming many more visitors to Bangor during this special anniversary year," Gemma added.

A new book - 'Be Careful, Don't Rush - Celebrating 100 Years of Train Travel between Hollywood and Bangor' - has been published by well-known author Masefield to coincide with the anniversary and provides



a fascinating account of the ups and downs of this much-loved local transport artery. He has produced previous books about local history in North Down, as well as on train travel overseas.

'Be Careful, Don't Rush' was one of the affectionate names given in times past to the Belfast and County Down Railway (the BCDR) that constructed the original line from Belfast Queen's Quay to Hollywood, which opened on August 2 1848. The BCDR was itself nationalised into the Ulster Transport Authority exactly 100 years later.

► **'Be Careful, Don't Rush' is on sale for £10, at a range of local outlets in Holywood and Bangor, and along the line. Copies can also be obtained at cost price plus postage direct from the author - email rmasefield@hotmail.com or phone 07966 589091. For more information go online at www.northdownmuseum.com**

A love for Ulster that embraced all of its people

LAST year saw the 50th anniversary of the untimely death of Richard Hayward. It was also the year that witnessed his reputation rescued from oblivion with the publication of his biography *Romancing Ireland* by Paul Clements, an event which was accompanied by a BBC documentary *In Search of Richard Hayward*, an exhibition on Hayward at the Linen Hall Library - part of a day-long symposium of his life, screenings of some of his films and a series of province-wide talks.

Remarkably, at that time none of Hayward's travel books were in-print.

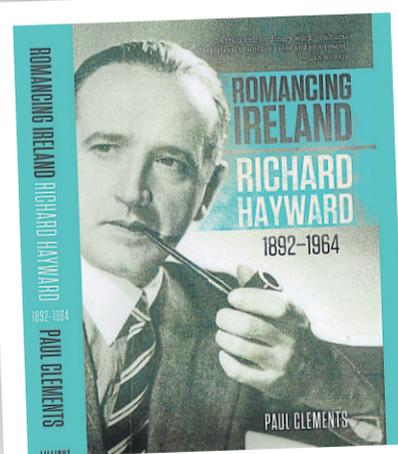
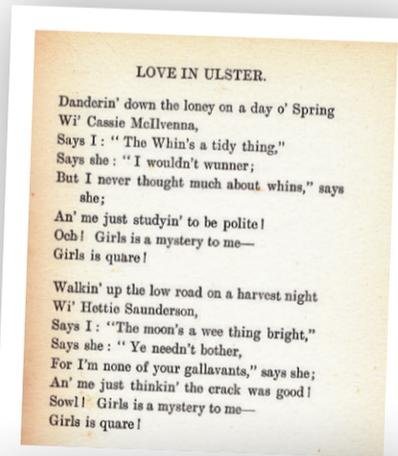
But the re-publication by Clachan Publishing of his *Ulster and the City of Belfast* (1950) goes some way to correct this and allows the modern reader an opportunity to share Hayward's infectious enthusiasm for his adopted province, its people, their humour, history and folk lore.

Much has recently been said about Hayward's pivotal role in Ulster's cultural development, but it should not be forgotten his voice is still relevant today. He was not one to try to claim and grab Ulster for his own tribe. His love of Ulster embraced all its history and all of its people, demonstrating an inclusiveness of spirit so relevant to Ulster in the post-Good Friday Agreement era.

Hayward was an Orangeman who celebrated



► The new edition of *Ulster and the City of Belfast*, now on sale at £14.90 (£18.90), is a perfect bound B&W paperback (225 pages) with full-colour cover



the Orange culture, but also had the ability to celebrate Ulster's Gaelic heritage and the Irish language.

The book is one of a five-part series *This is Ireland* which covers the four Irish Provinces - two for the Province of Connacht. Essentially it is a journey through the nine counties of Ulster, Hayward's spiritual home, of which he wrote with a particular passion. He brings to his writing his immense knowledge and boundless enthusiasm for its towns and countryside, capturing what made Ulster what it is. For him, Ulster, though an integral part of Ireland, is distinctive. He is at his most passionate when writing of the independent mindedness of the folk of Ulster, especially those of the '98 - the rising of the United Irishmen - and those early Ulster emigrants who were driven by persecution and hard times to the fledgling United States where they made a massive contribution to its development and history.

Also faithfully reproduced in this new edition are Raymond Piper's delicate and sensitive illustrations. These are both evocative and accurate, enhancing the aura of nostalgia which pervades the book.

The harsh realities of sectarianism and violence hardly ruffle the surface of this book, but this is because it captures those qualities of Ulster life that people find so endearing, despite the troubles and strife, and which manifest themselves in so many aspects of life in Ulster.



The Irish-Scottish world of the Middle Ages

A special symposium exploring the historical and cultural links between Ireland and Scotland will take place in Trinity College Dublin on Friday September 18 and Saturday September 19.



The 2nd Trinity Medieval Ireland Symposium will mark the 700th anniversary of the Bruce Invasion of Ireland.

Few peoples have as much in common as the Irish and the Scots. The very name 'Scotland' - from Scotia, the 'land of the Scoti' - is an ever-present reminder of that connection. In the Latin of the early Middle Ages, a Scotus was an Irishman, and the homeland of the Scoti was Ireland. That the name came to be applied to the northern part of Britain is testament to the strength of Irish influence there, which this Symposium explores.

Do the origins of modern Scotland lie in Ireland? To what extent did the legacy of Colum Cille of Iona define relations between the two regions - in political, ecclesiastical, literary and artistic terms? Is the *Book of Kells* Irish or Scottish? What was the impact of Viking and then Anglo-Norman attempts at conquest? Did contacts intensify with the recruitment of Hebridean galloglass by the chieftains of Gaelic Ulster and elsewhere or were ancient bonds on the wane as the Middle Ages drew to a close? These are some of the questions this Symposium of leading experts seeks to answer.

On Friday September 18, the keynote address by Professor Dauvit Broun will pose the question: "Two countries, one people? Conceptualising the Irish dimension in Scottish history".

Dauvit Broun is Professor of Scottish History at the University of Glasgow and is among the foremost Scottish historians of his generation. He is author of *The Irish Identity of the kingdom of the Scots* (1999) and *Scottish Independence and the Idea of Britain from the Picts to Alexander III* (2007). He is also Principal Investigator for the People of Medieval Scotland project (www.poms.ac.uk).

Other speakers include: Michael Brown, Thomas Owen Clancy, Seán Duffy, Robin Frame, Benjamin Hudson, Martin Macgregor, Bernard Meehan, Thomas O'Loughlin, R. Andrew McDonald, Michael Penman, Katharine Simms and Alex Woolf.

The symposium will take place in the Thomas Davis Theatre (Room 2043 of the University's Arts Building). Admission is free and all are welcome. For more information email

medieval.ireland.symposium@gmail.com



Audit examines Donegal's US heritage

THE Ulster-Scots Agency has launched the East Donegal Ulster-Scots Heritage audit. The launch was carried out by the Ulster Historical Foundation in association with the centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster American Folk Park.

Dr William Roulston, director of the Ulster Historical Foundation, pointed out some of the highlights of the rich Ulster-Scots heritage of East Donegal. He said that Raphoe was a unique

Ulster-Scots heritage town dating back to the Plantation. The Monreagh Ulster-Scots Heritage Centre offered many opportunities to promote Ulster-Scots and the Laggan area in Co Donegal has a number of rich heritage opportunities which need promoting and highlighted. The heritage audit was carried out in 2014 and recorded the built heritage within east Donegal linked to the Ulster-Scots community.

The audit highlighted the need for a long term strategy which would promote the tourism opportunities and create links

with the local community.

The Agency is currently designing a heritage trail map and brochure for east Donegal and is organising an Ulster-Scots heritage day in Raphoe on Saturday August 22 as part of the Heritage week. The Heritage Day will be part funded by Heritage Ireland. The Agency plans further consultations in the autumn with the local community and plans to explore opportunities to work with Donegal County Council and those who own some of the historic sites.

Talent takes centre stage at Brookeborough



PUPILS at Brookeborough Primary School in Co Fermanagh have been showcasing their talents at a concert to celebrate achieving Ulster-Scots Flagship School status.

The Flagship School programme is a cultural and educational programme devised and managed by the Ulster-Scots Agency in partnership with primary schools in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Its purpose is to support primary schools in the development of high quality

educational and curricular opportunities for children and young people to learn more about Ulster-Scots heritage and culture.

The concert showcased the talents and skills the pupils of Brookeborough PS have gained as a result of the participation in the programme. Reception, P1 and P2 pupils recited four nursery rhymes using the Ulster-Scots language while P3 and P4 pupils performed two highland dances accompanied by dance tutor Kenzey Downey.

The pupils in P4-P7 performed the

play *The Boat Factory* by Dan Gordon, and musical entertainment was also provided by the P5-P7 pupils who played a variety of pieces on the tin whistle and fiddle accompanied by their tutor Keith Lyttle.

The afternoon was enjoyed by the pupils, staff, parents, members of the board of governors and representatives of the Ulster-Scots Agency and culminated in the presentation of the award itself to school principal Miss Hazel Gardiner on behalf of the Ulster-Scots Agency by Trina Somerville (director of education and language) and Gary Blair (education

Honouring young pipe band enthusiasts

Foundation Certificates in Piping and Drumming were presented to more than 200 young pipe band enthusiasts at a reception at Stormont Parliament Buildings hosted by Fermanagh/South Tyrone MP and MLA Tom Elliott.

The event, organised this year by the Ulster Scots Agency, attracted hundreds of pupils and parents from throughout Northern Ireland and Donegal.

The first year such an event was held saw 24 pupils graduate and receive their certificates and that figure has annually increased. But this year broke all previous records as over 230 children qualified for their certificate.

The Foundation Certificate in Piping and Drumming was designed by the Ulster Scots Agency in partnership with the RSPBA NI and it is gained at the end of rigorous tuition whereby pupils are expected to demonstrate knowledge of scale and chanter tunes theoretically and practically, and drummers are tested similarly.

The event this year was attended by key RSPBA personnel including Ian Embelton (the parent body's chief executive), Gordon Hamill, George Usher, Ray Hall and Ian Burrows, with Ian Crozier (chief executive) and Trina Somerville representing the Ulster Scots Agency.



Members of the RSPBA NI and Scottish branches, Michelle McIlveen MLA and Ian Crozier CEO of the Ulster-Scots Agency at Parliament Buildings

The certificates were presented by Michelle McIlveen MLA to pupils from controlled, maintained and integrated primary and post primary schools from across the country as

well as some community led classes. The Agency would like to thank the host for the evening, Michelle McIlveen, the RSPBA in Scotland and Northern Ireland, the

tutors and everyone involved in making the event such a success and offer heartfelt congratulations to all recipients of the prestigious certificate.

The shared inheritance of Ulster and north America

FOR its tiny size relative to continental America, Ulster's impact on the development of USA and Canada has been huge.

And this shared inheritance of Ulster and North America was explored at a special one-off conference in Belfast entitled: *Common Currency: the shared inheritance of Ulster and North America*.

The significance of the connections was brought home by US Consul General Gregory S. Burton, who spoke of his own background in Pennsylvania when opening the event. He set the scene for the conference, with the intellectually stimulating and challenging talks being well received by all those in attendance. The live musical performance from singer songwriter Colin Magee and fellow musicians made real the strong cultural links between here and North America and was appreciated greatly by the attentive audience.

In addition to the live music, the thought-provoking presentations, delivered by a mix of respected academics and cultural commentators, demonstrated that the contribution of Ulster migrants to the development of North American society is more diverse, complex and important than the prevailing orthodoxy of frontiersmen clearing wilderness and fighting Native Americans.

For example, how many people know that Oliver Pollock from County Tyrone, who became a successful merchant in Philadelphia, Cuba and New Orleans, is credited with inventing the dollar symbol, as well as using much of his personal wealth to help finance the War of Independence? Or that Toronto was once referred to as the 'Belfast of Canada'.

The line-up of conference speakers included Dr Francis Costello, Dr Linde Lunney, Dr Brian Lambkin, Alister McReynolds, Dr Johanne Devlin Trew, Mark Thompson, Colin Magee, Gillian Hunt and Professor William J. Smyth.

Their subject matters were:

- Costello: Ulster and the American South – A Driven Impulse, 1800–50
- Lunney: Aghadowey, 1718 and the beginning of emigration – in 2018 should we celebrate or commemorate?
- Lambkin: Ancestral Homes and Family History: the case of the Mellons of Tyrone and Pennsylvania
- McReynolds: 'The gentle and thoughtful Scotch Irish' – their contribution to civilisation rather than bloody Empire creation
- Thompson: 'How Sweet The Sound' – Hymns and Hymnwriters from Ulster and North America
- Devlin Trew: Whose Diaspora? Whose migration? Northern Ireland's overseas connections since the 1920s



- Hunt: Ulster and America – making family history connections
- Magee: 'An American Dream' – A song of Emigration to the New World
- Smyth: The Enduring connection – Ulster Migration to British North America and the Emergence of Toronto, the Belfast of Canada

Organised in partnership between the Ministerial Advisory Group Ulster-Scots Academy and the Ulster Historical

Foundation, Common Currency explored the deep and myriad connections between Ulster and North America across a broad range of themes including history, music, commerce and the migration experience. The event was a major success and fully-subscribed, attracting participants from across the nine counties of Ulster and from Dublin.

Audio recordings and other outputs from the conference are being made available to order.

Jousters, knights and cavalry rise to the challenge at the Bruce 700 Festival

To commemorate the crowning of Edward Bruce as King of Ireland in 1315, the Ulster Scots Agency and Mid and East Antrim Borough Council in partnership with the NIEA hosted the Bruce 700 Festival featuring The Knights of Royal England, Europe's premier jousting team.

The two-day festival in late May took place at Carrickfergus Castle, Main Street and Marine Gardens and saw 6,000 people enjoy a range of medieval events and entertainment including a spectacular jousting show and pageantry performance, dramatic re-enactments, street theatre, falconry, traditional storytelling, blacksmith demonstrations, archery, medieval battle workshops and family entertainment. The Knights of Royal England conducted a dramatic jousting tournament at Marine Gardens with an awesome spectacle of chivalry, hand to hand combat, mounted challenges and horsemanship; this was followed the next day by a pageantry display at the Castle. The Knights of Royal England are the premiere jousting company in Europe and stage more than 60 shows each year, having performed at both large and small venues all over the world. Ian Crozier, chief executive of Ulster Scots

Agency said: "The Bruce 700 Festival has been a resounding success for all of the partners involved. The event has helped to highlight the long standing links between Scotland and Ulster as well as provide a great day out for the families who came to see the show. "The Ulster Scot Agency is working with key stakeholders to install trail-markers at 12 key Bruce related sites along our recently launched Bruce 700 Heritage trail." Mid and East Antrim Council mayor Billy Ashe said: "The highlight for many were the Knights of Royal England, who put on a tournament in Marine Gardens. "Crowds were actively encouraged to cheer on their team as the Knights took part in displays of sword fighting and hand to hand combat, leading up to the dramatic jousting on horseback. This was a great event for all the family." The Festival was formally launched at an illustrated talk by Dr. William Roulston of the Ulster Historical Foundation at the Civic Centre in Carrickfergus, where the Ulster Scots Agency, MAG Ulster Scots Academy and Ulster Historical Foundation also launched a new Bruce booklet, heritage trail and exhibition as part of the talk. Free copies of this literature can be obtained from the Discover Ulster Scots Visitor Centre at 1-9 Victoria Street, Belfast.



The country's castles come alive to celebrate Bruce

FOR the first time ever, the Ulster-Scots Agency has brought drama to life in a number of castles in Northern Ireland as part of the Bruce 700 Anniversary celebrations. Students from 30 schools visited four castles in May and June to experience an immersive drama bringing the castles to life and adding something special to the play which had been written and performed by Class-Act Drama. Gary Blair, education officer for the Ulster-Scots Agency, set about organising the touring drama by having meetings with the Northern Ireland Environmental Agency to sort out the logistics of holding the drama at the castles which had links to Edward the Bruce. For some castles, it was a straightforward task as Carrickfergus Castle has its own visitor centre which could be used in wet weather conditions. But for others it wasn't as straight forward

as Dundrum Castle, Dunluce Castle and Greencastle were exposed to the elements. The visits to the castles took place over four different days, and fortunately the weather was kind to the organisers and participants. Whilst the script was similar at each castle, the atmosphere was very different. Trina Somerville, director of education, said: "The venues really made the drama fantastic as it brought everything to life. All 900 pupils reacted really well to the drama and the sound effects, and they interacted with the actors throughout. "Whilst I have seen all of the performances, each one has been different at each venue as there has been a very different atmosphere at each castle." Thanks are extended to the NIEA for their support and assistance and to Class-Act Drama for a superb script and a brilliantly delivered play.

Belfast Maritime Trail

New Ulster-Scots heritage trail

The Ulster Scots Agency and partner Ministerial Advisory Group Ulster-Scots Academy have launched the Belfast Maritime Trail to coincide with one of Belfast's biggest festivals: The Tall Ships 2015.

The project, which was funded by DCAL through the Ulster-Scots Academy Group, highlights key Ulster-Scots people and 16 locations connected to Belfast's rich maritime heritage and is beautifully illustrated with interpretive signage and a folding trail map.

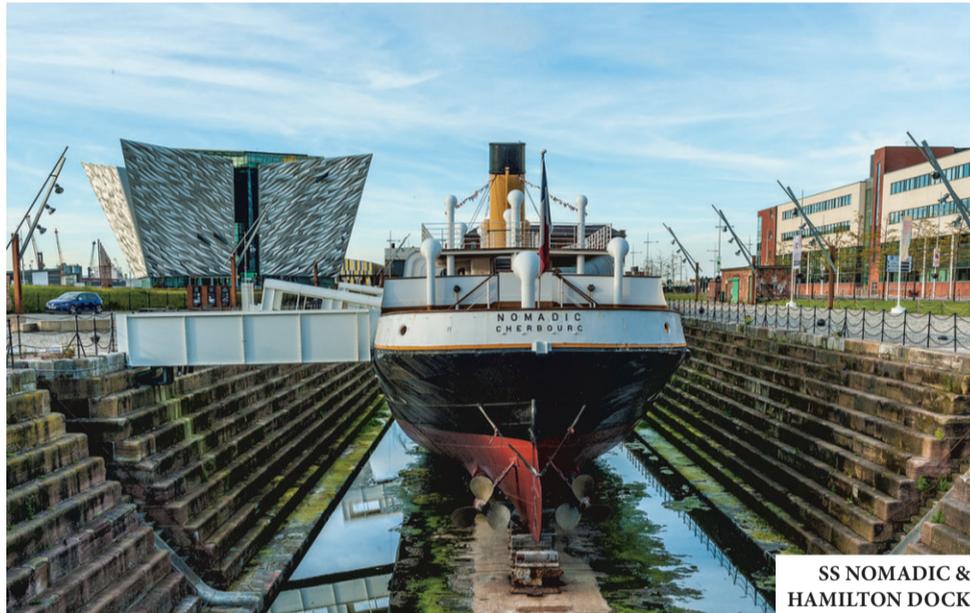
The new signage, which is currently in place at key maritime locations such as Sinclair Seaman's Church, Corporation Square, Donegall Quay, Queens Quay, Thompson's Dock and Clarendon Dock, has been the product of a large scale partnership between the Ulster Scots Agency, Ministerial Advisory Group - Ulster-Scots Academy, Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure, Belfast City Council, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, Titanic Foundation Limited, Odyssey Trust, NI Science Park, Department for Social Development, Scottish Maritime Museum, Sinclair Seamen's Presbyterian Church, Titanic's Dock & Pump House and Translink.

Ian Crozier, Chief Executive of the Ulster-Scots Agency said: "Belfast has a rich maritime heritage stretching back for centuries and much of that heritage has been shaped by our connection with Scotland.

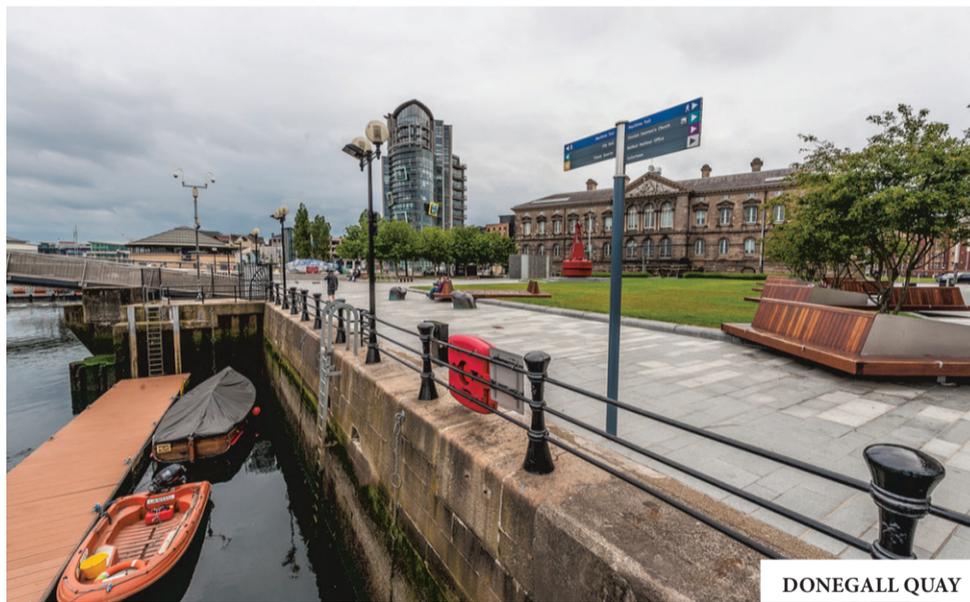
"William Ritchie, the father of our shipbuilding industry, was brought from Scotland to Belfast by the city's prosperous merchants, who were themselves Ulster-Scots; and every succeeding generation of shipbuilders were also Ulster-Scots. Through this project, we are bringing knowledge of that connection to the wider community, both locals and visitors alike." Brian McTeggart, Secretary to the Ulster-Scots Academy Group, added:

"The project is a fine example of true partnership at work, not just between the Ulster-Scots Academy Group and the Ulster-Scots Agency, but the many supporting partners who have made delivery of this project possible, especially in such a short timescale. The project is both increasing cultural awareness and extending the reach of Titanic Quarter and the Harbour out into the city centre, north Belfast and east Belfast and very importantly right out into the community. This will help bring economic and social benefits from heritage tourism into the community and will contribute to addressing deprivation and improving social inclusion." Belfast's success was due in no small measure to its many connections with Scotland.

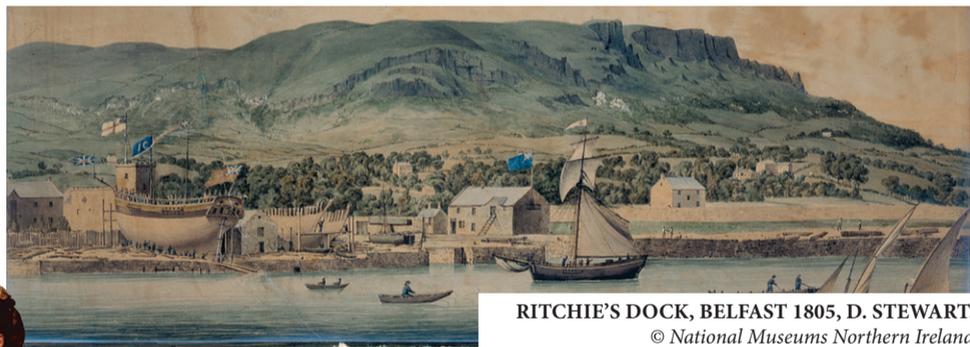
Scottish merchants established Belfast as a commercial centre in the 1600s, and Scotsmen were to the



SS NOMADIC & HAMILTON DOCK



DONEGALL QUAY



RITCHIE'S DOCK, BELFAST 1805, D. STEWART.
© National Museums Northern Ireland

fore in the city's shipbuilding industry. As Belfast became increasingly industrialised in the nineteenth century so its commercial links with Glasgow and the Clyde became even stronger.

The beginnings of modern Belfast can be traced to the early 1600s when an urban settlement began to emerge around a ford over the River Farset. Most of the inhabitants at this time were settlers from England and Scotland.

By the end of the 1600s Belfast was the premier port in Ulster and one of the largest in Ireland. Belfast's growth continued in the 1700s, though steadily rather than spectacularly. In the course of the nineteenth century Belfast expanded at a phenomenal rate – in 1800 its population stood at around 20,000; in 1911 it was 385,000 making it the largest city in Ireland. The reason for its growth was down to industrial expansion, and in particular the application of mechanisation to what had hitherto been largely cottage industries. Belfast became the most important linen-producing city in

the world. At the beginning of the twentieth century, more than 35,000 of Belfast's inhabitants, most of them women, were involved in the textile industry. By the early 1900s, Belfast had become an industrial and commercial powerhouse, home to some of the largest factories and firms in the world. Harland & Wolff was the largest shipyard in the world, while Ewart & Co. was the largest textile firm in the world. The York Street Flax Spinning Company had the largest textile mill in the world; and nearby Gallaher's was the largest cigarette factory in the world. The Belfast Ropeworks was the largest facility of its type in the world; and Belfast-based engineering firms



FOLLOW THE TRAIL
www.DiscoverUlsterScots.com
http://goo.gl/MUXBCK

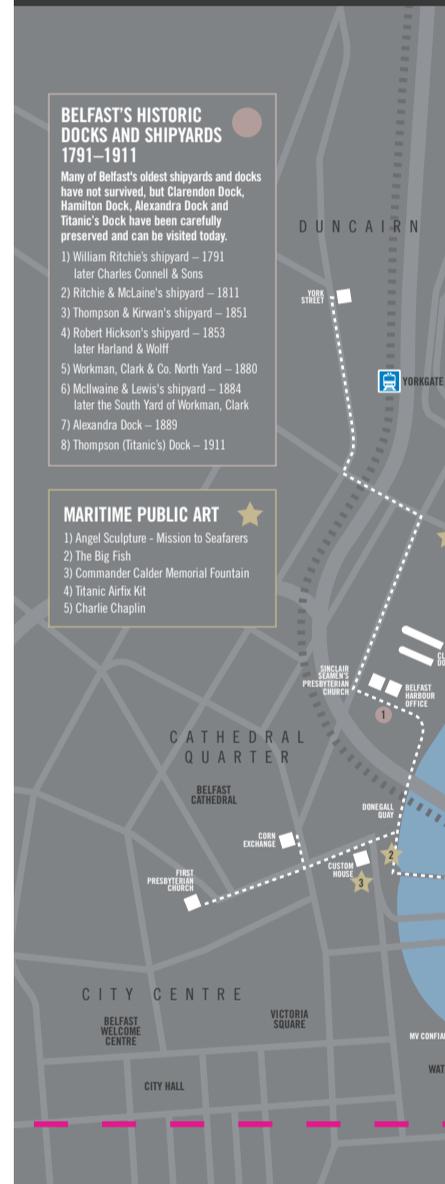
BELFAST'S HISTORIC DOCKS AND SHIPYARDS 1791–1911

Many of Belfast's oldest shipyards and docks have not survived, but Clarendon Dock, Hamilton Dock, Alexandra Dock and Titanic's Dock have been carefully preserved and can be visited today.

- 1) William Ritchie's shipyard – 1791 later Charles Connell & Sons
- 2) Ritchie & McLaine's shipyard – 1811
- 3) Thompson & Kirwan's shipyard – 1851 later Harland & Wolff
- 4) Robert Hickson's shipyard – 1853 later Harland & Wolff
- 5) Workman, Clark & Co. North Yard – 1880
- 6) McIlwaine & Lewis's shipyard – 1884 later the South Yard of Workman, Clark
- 7) Alexandra Dock – 1889
- 8) Thompson (Titanic's) Dock – 1911

MARITIME PUBLIC ART

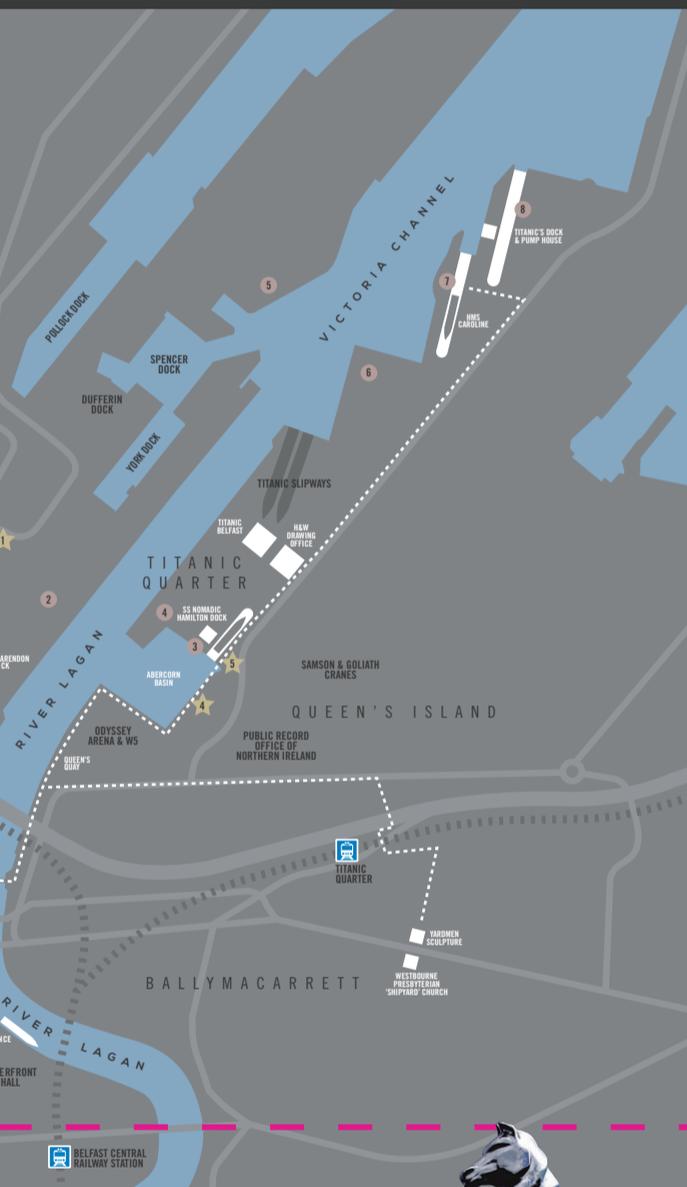
- 1) Angel Sculpture - Mission to Seafarers
- 2) The Big Fish
- 3) Commander Calder Memorial Fountain
- 4) Titanic Airfix Kit
- 5) Charlie Chaplin



Traces Belfast's maritime past

Trail Map

Belfast's maritime history stretches back centuries. This heritage trail will take you to some of Belfast's most historic sites, from the earliest surviving portions of dock infrastructure to the modern Titanic Belfast visitor attraction.



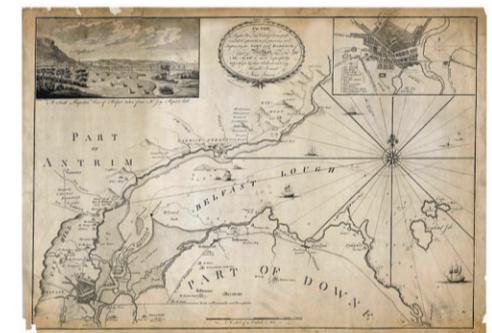
HARLAND & WOLFF HEADQUARTERS



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



CUSTOM HOUSE



JAMES LAWSON'S MAP OF BELFAST LOUGH, 1789



HMS CAROLINE



BELFAST HARBOUR OFFICE

like Sirocco and Mackie's were global brands. The term 'Belfast made' was synonymous with 'the best'. The 1613 charter creating the corporation of Belfast included a clause granting the right to 'establish within the franchises of the said Borough one wharfe or key' where merchants could load and unload goods. In the 1600s an energetic and ambitious merchant community, mainly Scottish in origin, emerged. These merchants enjoyed strong trading links with Britain, Europe and the Americas.



The earliest quay in Belfast was on the south bank of the River Farset in what is now High Street. Belfast's merchants took the lead in building new quays and extending the docks. The major difficulty for Belfast was that the approach to its quays was via a shallow and winding channel which limited the size of the vessels that were able to dock. Thanks largely to the pioneering work of the Ballast Board (established in 1785) and its successor, the Harbour Board (established in 1847), Belfast's harbour facilities improved dramatically in the 1800s.

These bodies were dominated by Belfast's merchants who had a vested interest in developing the port. The great merchant families of Victorian Belfast included the Sinclairs. Sinclair Seamen's Presbyterian Church was named for John Sinclair and enjoyed the generous support of other members of the family. The names of other leading merchants can be seen on the memorials erected on the opening of the Alexandra Dock and Thompson Dock (Titanic's Dock). Belfast-made goods were transported around the world

in Belfast-built ships. The department store of Robinson & Cleaver, whose grand building can be seen in Donegall Square, was the largest mail order business in the world. Belfast recognised itself as a global trading city and this can be seen in many architectural references in the buildings of the city.



Copies of the Belfast Maritime Trail can be obtained from the Discover Ulster Scots centre, tourist information centres or downloaded at <http://discoverulsterscots.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/BelfastMaritimeTrail.pdf>

Major General Robert Ross

The Ulster-Scot who captured Washington

THE Anglo-American War of 1812 must count as one of the most unnecessary conflicts in world history. Certainly, the last major battle of the war in which Andrew Jackson (who in 1829 would become the seventh President of the United States) defeated Major General Edward Pakenham, the Duke of Wellington's brother-in-law, at New Orleans on January 8 1815, was wholly unnecessary. The war had been brought to a close a fortnight earlier by the Treaty of Ghent on December 24 1814.

The United States had declared war on the United Kingdom on June 16 1812. The ostensible cause for the US declaration of war was a series of trade restrictions introduced by Britain to impede neutral trade with Napoleonic France with which Britain was at war. The United States contended that these restrictions were contrary to international law. The Americans also objected to the alleged impressment (forced recruitment) of US citizens into the Royal Navy. Another major source of American anger was alleged British military support for American Indians who were waging war against the United States.

The most obvious respect in which the Anglo-American war of 1812 was unnecessary lies in the fact that Lord Castlereagh, the British Foreign Secretary, had removed the United States' principle *casus belli* by announcing a relaxation of the British restrictions six days before the US declaration of war. Both the War of 1812 and the Battle of New Orleans were in large measure the product of the limitations of early 19th-century trans-Atlantic communications.

A number of campaigns may be readily identified, but here we are concerned only with the Chesapeake Bay campaign conducted by Major General Robert Ross in the summer and early autumn of 1814, the high point of which was the British occupation of Washington and the burning of the Capitol and the Executive Mansion (normally referred to today as the White House) and several other public buildings. Robert Ross was born in 1766 in Ross-Trevor (now Rostrevor), Co Down. He graduated from Trinity College in Dublin and joined the British Army. During the wars against Revolutionary and Napoleonic France, Ross saw significant action in Spain, Egypt, Italy, and the Netherlands. He was wounded three times. On two occasions his wounds were severe. For his conspicuous gallantry, leadership, and heroism, he was awarded three Gold Medals, the Peninsula Gold Medal, a Sword of Honour, and he received the thanks of Parliament.

Although a strict disciplinarian who drilled his men relentlessly, Ross was extremely popular because of willingness to share in the hardships of his soldiers and fight alongside them in the thick of battle, a fact evidenced by his three wounds. By 1812 Ross was a Major General.

On August 19 1814 Ross and 5,400

British troops, many of them veterans of the Peninsular War, landed near Benedict on the Patuxent River in southern Maryland. Ross and troops then began to advance on Washington, some 40 miles away. On August 24 at Bladensburg, Maryland, Ross encountered a numerically superior American force commanded by Major General William H. Winder. Winder's force consisted of 6,500 militia men and 400 sailors and marines. Ross's advance guard of 1,500 men routed the American force which fled in panic and disarray, so much so that the battle became known as the 'Bladensburg Races'. The American militia fled through the streets of Washington, less than nine miles away. Only the American sailors and marines under the command of Commodore Joshua Barney acquitted themselves with honour. Later that day the British entered Washington virtually unopposed, James Madison, the fourth President of the United States, along with the rest of the federal administration, having fled.

Ross sent a party under a flag of truce to agree to terms, but they were attacked by partisans from a house at the corner of Maryland Avenue, Constitution Avenue, and Second Street NE. This was to be the only resistance British troops encountered. The house was burned - the only private house to suffer that fate - and the Union Flag was raised above Washington.

The British set fire to the Capitol (seat of the Senate and the House of Representatives), the Library of Congress, the Executive Mansion (or White House), the US Treasury and other public buildings. The Americans themselves set fire to the Washington Navy Yard, founded by Thomas Jefferson, to prevent capture of stores and ammunition, and the 44-gun frigate *Columbia* which was then under construction. For whatever reason the British spared the Marine Barracks, a decision often assumed to have been a chivalrous tribute to their exemplary conduct at Bladensburg.

The spirited conduct of Dolley Madison, the President's wife, provides a stark contrast with that of the American political and administrative elite. The First Lady stayed in the Executive Mansion long after government officials (including her own bodyguard) had fled and is credited with saving several historic paintings, notably the *Lansdowne Portrait*, a full-length painting of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart, and various important artefacts. Mrs Madison was eventually prevailed upon to leave the Executive Mansion only moments before British troops entered the building. There the troops found the dining hall set for a dinner for 40 people. After consuming the banquet, they took souvenirs (including one of the president's hats) and then set the building on fire.

The British occupied Washington for approximately 26 hours and then returned to their ships.

The Americans have always regarded the

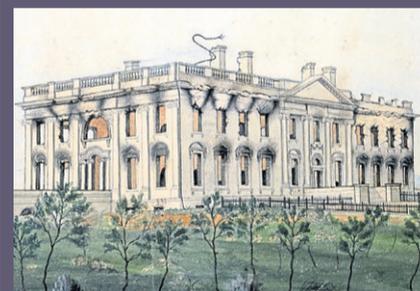


British burn the capitol, 1814

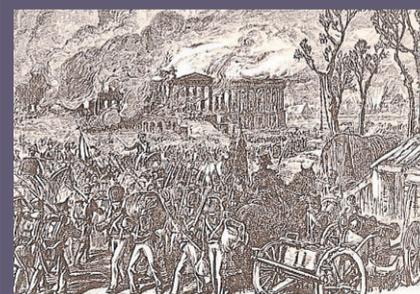
“Major General Robert Ross was the first (and to date only) soldier to capture Washington, a feat which eluded even great Robert E. Lee and the legendary Army of Northern Virginia 50 years later.”



Bladensburg



“The President's House” by George Munger



Capture and burning of Washington in 1814



Major General Robert Ross and (above) Dolley Madison, the wife of President James Madison.

British raid on Washington as retaliation for Brigadier General Zebulon Pike's burning of York (now Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada (now Ontario), in the spring of 1813. Actually, the British attacked Washington for 'its likely political effect' rather than mere retaliation for York. By attacking their enemy's seat of government, the British were anticipating the Prussian soldier and military theorist Clausewitz's understanding of the relationship between political objectives and military objectives in war.

In September 1814 Ross mounted a raid on Baltimore while the Royal Navy attacked Fort McHenry. The American militia men, defending Baltimore from behind entrenchments, on this occasion acquitted themselves well and succeeded in repulsing Ross's force, Ross being mortally wounded. Fort McHenry successfully withstood the Royal Navy's bombardment, an event which prompted Francis Scott Key to write 'The Star-Spangled Banner'.

American success in defending Baltimore and Fort McHenry offset the humiliation of the brief occupation of Washington and the destruction of so many of the city's public buildings. The Executive Mansion sustained extensive damage. Only the external walls remained and, except for portions of the south wall, most of these had to be demolished and rebuilt because they had been weakened by the fire and their subsequent exposure to the elements. Unfortunately there would appear to be no substance to the myth that the Executive Mansion was painted white to conceal the scorch marks because it had been painted white since its construction in 1798.

Ross died while being transported back to the ships. After his death, the general's body was stored in a barrel of Jamaican rum and shipped to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he was buried on September 29 1814.

Major General Robert Ross was the first (and to date only) soldier to capture Washington, a feat which eluded even great Robert E. Lee and the legendary Army of Northern Virginia 50 years later. Admittedly, Lee probably would not have wished to burn the American capital. Ross was also the first commander to defeat a full US army in the field.

► For more details about Major General Ross and the interconnecting ties with the USA and Canada see

www.themanwhocapturedwashington.com

Marking the anniversary of the Somme with the launch of *Paul Pollocks War*

The Ulster Scots Agency has published *Paul Pollock's War* as part of the Ulster and the Great War series to mark the 99th anniversary of The Somme and the upcoming centenary of the Great War. The new title documents the story of a remarkable Ulster Scots family, their reaction to and involvement in some of the major social movements and historical events of their time.

At the age of twenty one Paul Pollock was reported missing on the morning of the 1st July 1916, he was never seen again. Paul became one of the fallen at The Somme and only recently has the omission of his name from the official war memorials been addressed. The letters he wrote home, from July 1915 - July 1916,

have been treasured by the family ever since. Revealed in the book for the first time, the letters paint an intimate picture of Paul's experiences as a young man in the Royal Irish Rifles, of his friend the war photographer George Hackney, and of the admiration and anguish of his father, Rev. John Pollock of St Enoch's Presbyterian Church in Belfast.

Free copies of the book are being made available as part of the Ulster Scots Agency's Ulster and the Great War project. You can obtain a copy by emailing cholmes@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk or visiting the Discover Ulster Scots visitor centre at 1-9 Victoria Street, Belfast, BT1 2LG.



Pipers to descend on Dalriada Festival for annual contest

THE Co Antrim section of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (NI Branch) have scheduled their annual pipe band contest as part of the P&O Ferries Dalriada Festival in the spectacular grounds of Glenarm Castle.

It will be held on the opening day of the festival's main event - the world famous 'Highland Games' on Saturday July 18, while the Dalriada Festival itself continues until July 25.

RSPBANI president Winston Pinkerton together with section office-bearers Councillor Tommy Nicholl (president), Councillor Beth Adger (vice-chairman) and Alistair McCleery (secretary) were on hand to office launch the County Antrim Pipe Band and Drum Major Championships. The launch was part of an entertaining event which featured live music and a sample of the packed programme of events that will be held during the Dalriada Festival. The Co Antrim section made history of the wrong sort last year when their annual contest scheduled for Larne fell victim to the weather, so they're hoping for better luck this time.

At the time of writing around 30 bands and 25 drum majors have entered the event.



Understanding our shared heritage

THE Ministerial Advisory Group Ulster-Scots Academy has published a report on its work over the past four years.

And it emerged that the Academy Group has invested £3.4 million in research and development activity across a range of disciplines, including language and literature, history, heritage and music. Speaking at the launch in Belfast's Corn Exchange, Academy Group chair Bill Smith said: "We are

immensely proud of the progress we have made since we were appointed in 2011. "Activities and Achievements shows the value of authentic research conducted in partnership between subject experts and the Ulster-Scots sector. "In co-operation with the two universities, district councils and local communities, we have demonstrated that the Academy approach can make a huge difference in developing popular understanding of our shared

Ulster-Scots heritage." Dr Smith added: "We look forward to working with the sector and the wider community over the coming year to take forward our exciting proposals for a fully independent Ulster-Scots Academy." Activities and Achievements is available from www.dcalni.gov.uk/index/language-cultural-diversity-r08/ulster-scots.htm or by e-mailing ulsterscotsacademy@dcalni.gov.uk or by phoning 028 90515086.

POWERED BY DECATHLON

FESTIVAL WEEK EVENTS

P&O FERRIES DALRIADA FESTIVAL
SPORT • MUSIC • FINE FOODS
in partnership with UTV

in the village

GLENARM

SUNDAY 19 TO SATURDAY 25 JULY

SUNDAY 19 JULY
BEACH MOUNTED RELAY
CARNLOUGH BEACH, 5PM

MONDAY 20 JULY
DALRIADA WIPEOUT
GLENARM SPORTSFIELD, 7PM

TUESDAY 21 JULY
BUBBLEBALL SOCCER TOURNAMENT
GLENARM SPORTSFIELD, 7PM

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY
KIDS DUATHLON
GLENARM CASTLE, 4PM

SPRINT TRIATHLON
GLENARM MARINA, 7PM

THURSDAY 23 JULY
SUPER ENDUROXCROSS
GLENARM OLD QUARRY, 6.30PM (£5)

FRIDAY 24 JULY
DALRIADA 5K & 10K RUN
ALTMORE ST. GLENARM, 6.30PM

HYMNS & HAYBALES
EGLINTON BARN, GLENARM, 8.00PM

CASH RETURNS
www.cashreturns.net

FRIDAY 24 JULY
UK/IRELAND'S NO.1 AWARD WINNING JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE
EGLINTON BARN, 9.00pm
FREE ADMISSION

SATURDAY 25 JULY
STREET FAIR, CRAFTS, CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT, SAILING & ROWING REGATTA, FANCY DRESS PARADE, LIVE MUSIC FROM UK & IRELAND'S PREMIER
MICHAEL JACKSON TRIBUTE SHOW & FIREWORKS!
11am - 11pm | FREE ADMISSION

auld hieirin' fair & grand finale

tourism north@ireland Ulster-Scots Agency CALOR Vorsprung durch Technik Audi THOMPSON'S FAMILY HISTORY GLENARM Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.DALRIADAFESTIVAL.CO.UK
ALL OF THE ABOVE EVENTS ARE FREE EXCEPT FOR THE SUPER ENDUROXCROSS WHERE A £5 ADMISSION CHARGE APPLIES.

RECIPES

COOKING WITH JUDITH McLAUGHLIN

Delicious Summer Berry Pavlova...



INGREDIENTS

- 4 egg whites (at room temperature)
- 1 1/3 cup (8oz) extra fine sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp cornstarch
- 1 1/2 tsp white wine vinegar
- 1 vanilla bean (split lengthwise) or 2 tsp of vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- (topping and assembly)
- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream (1 cup whipped)
- 2 tsp extra fine sugar
- 1 1/2 cups mixed summer berries (washed and sliced)
- 1 Tbsp of reduced balsamic vinegar



HOW TO MAKE IT:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Line and grease a baking sheet with parchment wax paper.
3. In electric mixer beat egg whites at room temperature. Slowly incorporate sugar one teaspoon at a time. Blend in the cornstarch and wine vinegar and vanilla.
4. Spread meringue in a circular fashion on lined baking sheet, building up the edges a little higher than the middle.
5. Place Pavlova in the oven and reduce temperature to 300 degrees F. Bake for 1 1/4 hours and then switch off the oven allowing the Pavlova to dry out for another hour so that it becomes crunchier on the outside but still has a lovely soft center.
6. Whip fresh cream, vanilla and sugar to soft peaks appear.
7. To assemble the Pavlova spoon the top with fresh cream. And then garnish with the seasonal berries. Drizzle with reduced balsamic.

MPs swear oaths in Scots/Ulster-Scots

Jim Shannon has sworn himself in as an MP - in Ulster-Scots.

The DUP MP for Strangford took the Commons oath of allegiance to the Queen first in English, then in Ulster-Scots, following other MPs who opted to swear themselves in using their regional languages including Welsh and Cornish.

The oath in English is:

"I Jim Shannon swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, her heirs and successors, according to law. So help me God."

A copy of Mr Shannon's oath in Ulster-Scots, provided to the *News Letter*, reads: "A sweer bi AAMICHTIE GOD that A wull aye houl a richt leal an faithfu hairt tae HIR MAJESTIE QUEEN ELSEBETH, an Hir Line o Heirskip, anent tha Laa. Micht GOD be ma halp an stay."

The new Scottish MPs also took their oaths in the Scottish style, which involves holding the right hand in the air.

Each was required to read the passage in

English, but a number also performed it in Gaelic and Scots.

The first MP to swear in at the second Commons session of oath taking was the Conservatives' Europe minister David Lidington.

The first of the new SNP intake was Ian Blackford, representing Ross, Skye and Lochaber, followed by Angela Crawley, MP for Lanark and Hamilton East.

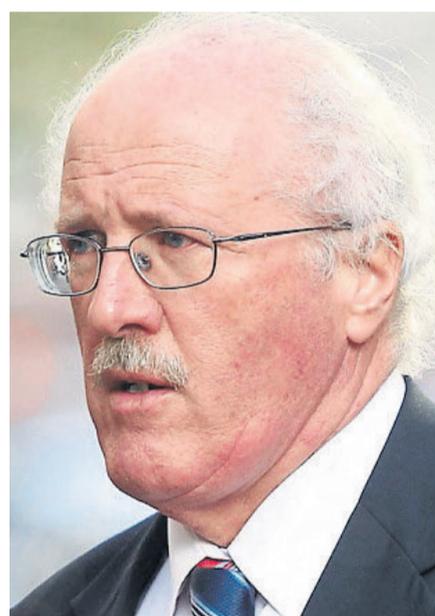
Livingston MP Hannah Bardell had to retake her oath after the "genuine mistake" of omitting the word "Queen" while reading the passage of allegiance.

The vast majority of the nationalist MPs read the non-religious version: "I do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, her heirs and successors, according to law."

Among the new intake:

Drew Hendry, Carol Monaghan, Chris Law, Deirdre Brock and John Nicolson spoke in Gaelic

Philippa Whitford, Richard Arkless and Marion Fellows spoke in Scots



The Ochil and South Perthshire MP, Tasma Ahmed-Sheikh, swore on the Koran. A number sported tartan ties and dresses and two MPs, Alison Thewliss and Ann McLaughlin, wore thistles.

The traditional Scottish swearing in, or "oath in the Scot's form", was a traditional feature in courts in Scotland, although it is rarely used nowadays.

Non-Scottish MPs asked the female clerk if they needed to raise their hand during the oath. She informed them it was not necessary and only the Scottish MPs were opting for that gesture.

Raphoe set to host heritage day

THE heritage town of Raphoe in east Donegal will host the first ever Ulster-Scots Heritage Day on Saturday August 22 commencing at noon.

The event will allow visitors and the local community to discover the rich Ulster-Scots heritage of Raphoe.

It will focus on the historic cathedral in Raphoe and will include tours of the graveyard. Visitors can also enjoy traditional Ulster-Scots musical groups reflecting bluegrass and Gospel links to Ulster-Scots music, traditional craft displays in Sheep Lane and re-enactors who will tell the story of some former famous Ulster-Scots residents of Raphoe. The event will also have a plantation living history village.

Derek Reaney, the Agency's development officer based in the regional office in Raphoe, said: "We are currently pulling the various plans together, but the event aims to recognise and value the rich Ulster-Scots heritage of Raphoe and the Scots influence in east Donegal."

The Agency has secured funding from Heritage Ireland towards the event, which is part of Heritage Week.

ULSTER-SCOTS PLACE TO VISIT:

How Newtownabbey's White House boasts its own impressive history

The White House in Newtownabbey, a fortified farmhouse dating back to 1569, has been restored into a beautiful visitor centre and multi-purpose space.

The building, nestling on the northern shore of Belfast Lough, has witnessed many historic scenes, from the ships carrying King William's armies to the Titanic sailing her maiden voyage and the Luftwaffe bombers using Belfast Lough as their gateway into the city of Belfast.

After falling into disrepair in the 1800s the building was later used as a Gospel hall until 1997.

At this point it was purchased on behalf of the Abbey Historical Society by Ulster Garden Villages and, in 2000, the White House Preservation Trust was formed to preserve and restore the building.

The Trust attracted funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Biffa Award, Northern Ireland Environment Agency and Ulster Garden Villages toward the project and as a result this building has been transformed into a beautiful and informative visitor centre.

Through a range of colourful displays including artefacts, images and interactives, you can now explore both the past and present of this unique historical site.

The White House now hosts two very different exhibitions: *A Tale of Three Kings* and *Relive The History*.

A Tale of Three Kings is an enlightening interactive exhibition that relates the only



truly European war ever fought on Irish soil. It features all the key players and major events of this war and looks at the integral role the White House played in this world changing period in European history.

Relive The History tells the rich and colourful story of the White House itself and its various owners from its beginnings 400 years ago.

The White House is open the public with free admission from June to September on Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm to 5pm.

As part of your visit you can now enjoy afternoon tea, coffee and light refreshments

in the unique setting of this historic building. Guided tours of the White House are available to groups by appointment and The White House function room may be hired for events.

The White House is operated by the Arts and Culture Department of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

► For all enquiries contact Museum at The Mill, Mossley Mill, Carnmoney Road North, Newtownabbey BT36 5QA (phone 028 9034 0129) or email antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk



Scarvagh House hosts a successful Countrysports Fair

The Northern Ireland CountrySports Fair reached its climax at Scarvagh House in the first weekend of June with over 170 exhibitors, 1000-plus competitors and 18,000 visitors passing through the gates to celebrate top country sports and pursuits.

Visitors were treated to high octane main arena attractions, falconry displays and a host of country sports events. Activities included gun dog tests, archery, clay pigeon shooting and angling.

Event director Derek Lutton said: "We were thrilled to come to our new home of Scarvagh House for the first time this year. It was the perfect backdrop to showcase the very best of country life. We're already counting down to next year."

The Ulster Scots Agency held a programme of activity in the Agency marquee over the two days of the Festival with performances by Risin Stour, Chanter, Down and Out Bluegrass Band and local band Cup O' Joe with highland dancing performances by Michelle Johnston School of Highland dance and soda bread making.



Lord Mayor of the ABC Council, Darryn Causby, said: "I was delighted to welcome this fantastic event to the Borough, it has been a major success and is a result of months of planning and hard work behind the scenes.

"I would like to congratulate the organising committee for all of their hard work. Scarvagh House is a fantastic venue, the site will really lend itself to the growth and development of this event in the coming years."

Blue plaque honours the memory of pioneering Ulster-Scots woman

A BLUE Plaque perpetuating the memory of Presbyterian Ulsterwoman prison reformer and temperance pioneer Anne Jane Carlile (1775-1864) has been unveiled in Co Cavan.

Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Heather Humphreys TD formally unveiled the plaque at a ceremony at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Bailieborough.

Born Anne Jane Hammil at Rooskey in Co Monaghan in 1775, she married the Rev Francis Carlile, the minister of 2nd Bailieborough (Urcher) and Corranery in 1800.

Widowed after just 11 years of marriage she was left with seven children to bring up. She moved first to Londonderry but later settled in Dublin where for the remainder of her days she was active in charitable and philanthropic causes.

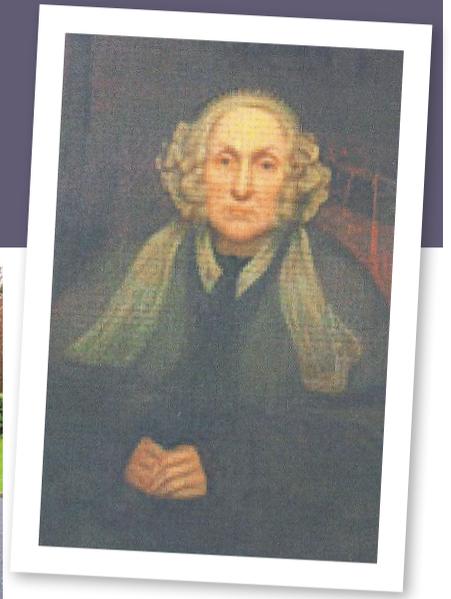
She soon got involved in prison reform and was visiting prisons in Dublin, after which she related how nearly every inmate in Dublin had been incarcerated because of drunkenness. She became teetotal soon after and she went on to campaign in Monaghan, Cavan, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, London and Belfast, travelling widely throughout Ulster and founding a number of societies. However, it is her pioneering work in temperance that she is most remembered for. She was a frequent speaker throughout Ireland, England and Scotland advocating the setting up of temperance associations and was co-founder of the Band of Hope in Leeds in 1847.

Chris Spurr, chairman of the Ulster History Circle, said: "Anne Jane Carlile was an Ulsterwoman whose inspiration and faith gave a name and purpose to one of Victorian Britain's leading temperance movements.



"A co-founder of the Band of Hope, her early years in counties Monaghan and Cavan lent substance to her charitable work in later life. "The Ulster History Circle is delighted to honour Anne Jane Carlile's achievements with this blue plaque, which is our first ever in Co Cavan, and the circle would particularly like to thank the Ulster-Scots Agency for their financial support towards the plaque."

► The life of Anne Jane Carlile will be the subject of the next Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland lecture, which will be held on September 24 in Rosemary Presbyterian Church, Belfast, at 8.00pm. Everyone is invited to come along and hear the story of this remarkable lady.



Conference explores life and times of one of America's most controversial presidents

A SUCCESSFUL conference took place in the Discover Ulster-Scots Centre earlier this month exploring the life and career of Andrew Jackson, seventh President of the United States, whose family origins can be found in the Carrickfergus area.

This year marks 200 years since the Battle of New Orleans, Jackson's most famous victory.

The conference, organised to mark this 200 year anniversary, was hosted by the Ulster Historical Foundation and the Ministerial Advisory Group – Ulster-Scots Academy (MAGUS).

A spokesman from the Ulster Historical Foundation said: "Andrew Jackson is an important, but also controversial figure, and the conference looked at the overall context of his life and those with whom he interacted.

"The conference provoked legitimate questions about American history and society as well as Jackson as a national figure and everyone who attended found it both informative and enjoyable."

Bill Smith, chair of the Ministerial Advisory Group on the Ulster-Scots Academy, said: "One of our main priorities has been to enable people to learn more about Ulster-Scots history and the influence those of Ulster-Scots origins have had on the wider world.

"This conference, and the forthcoming conference report, will both stimulate academic debate and provide a useful learning resource for those wishing to find out more about this pivotal historical figure."

The conference was chaired by Dr Francis Costello, visiting research professor at Queen's University Belfast.

Other contributors included Kevin Chambers (National Archives, Kew), Prof Don Hickey (Wayne State College, Nebraska), Jason Wiese (Williams Research Center, The Historic New Orleans Collection), Christopher T. George (co-author of The Man who Captured Washington), Prof Daniel Feller (Director of the Papers of Andrew Jackson, University of Tennessee) and Dr William Roulston (Ulster Historical Foundation).



"Anne Jane Carlile was an Ulsterwoman whose inspiration and faith gave a name and purpose to one of Victorian Britain's leading temperance movements."

The 99th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme

The Orangemen of the Somme

COMMEMORATIONS have been held across Ulster this month to mark the 99th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, where the Ulster Division had such a prominent role.

But in this article we focus on the links between the Ulster Division and Orangeism, which continued when thousands of young men joined up for the War effort.

After the Ulster Division paraded through Belfast on May 8 1915, its troops were shipped across the Irish Sea to continue training at Seaford, a picturesque town of about 4,000 inhabitants in Sussex, where the emphasis was on tactics and manoeuvres on the South Downs.

Many of those who served in the Division were Orangemen and most emphatically did not leave their Orangeism at home, but brought it and its vitality with them. They celebrated the Twelfth of July in Seaford in 1915.

A story in the *Sussex Daily News* headlined 'How the Twelfth was celebrated' reported: "Many of 'Carson's Boys' from the various battalions were gaily bedecked with sashes and regalia of the Loyal Orange Institution of Ireland, while it would have been an impossibility to discover a man in uniform without an orange coloured decoration in hat or buttonhole."



East Belfast Volunteers LOL 862 before and after (above) the Battle of the Somme.



the various homes and halls. Seaford streets in the evening were packed with khaki-clad men – clean, smart steady men. A few drums and fifes were procured, and an impromptu procession formed up and marched through the streets singing *Rule Britannia*, and other patriotic songs. Perfect good humour prevailed, and though I was in the town from 7pm to 9.30pm, I neither saw nor heard of any untoward incident."

While the Division was training at Seaford, military lodges were established under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orange Lodge of England for the duration of the war. Five lodges were formed initially but each battalion in the division ultimately acquired its own lodge.

They were East Belfast Volunteers LOL 862 (8th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles), South Antrim Volunteers (11th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles), North Belfast Volunteers LOL 864 (15th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles), Hope of Ulster and South Belfast Volunteers LOL 869 (10th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles), Inniskilling True Blues LOL 870 (11th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) and Young Citizen Volunteers LOL 871 (14th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles). These lodges subsequently met in the

trenches and villages in France. For example, East Belfast Volunteers LOL 862 held its first meeting in France on September 24 1915. One Orangeman recalled such a lodge meeting in France:

"You couldn't get a pint of porter, but the wine was cheap and there was always a hunk of French cheese and long loaves of French bread and we had these after the meeting was over. There was little or nothing to do at times, and it broke up the night for you. Now and again we had officers present and it did your heart good to see them respect the Worshipful Master and maybe him a private. It was just like home at some of those meetings ... you felt the better of them for a week afterwards."

The delightful vignette of officers being present at a lodge meeting and respecting the Worshipful Master (who might be a private) is all the more striking because of the rigid hierarchical and deferential nature of early 20th-century society and the strict military pecking order which would have been a pronounced feature of the Army in that era. This fascinating detail offers impressive testimony to the truly fraternal and equalitarian nature of the Orange institution. Rifleman James McRoberts of the 14th

"The division has made a remarkably good impression on Seaford folk. It was thought that an Irish division would be particularly reckless, but the local paper has spoken in terms of high praise of the 'stalwart Irishmen'. It describes their conduct as exemplary, and comments on their observation of the Sabbath."

Battalion Royal Irish Rifles provides us with a vignette of a lodge meeting in Belgium in September 1916. McRoberts recorded in his diary that the meeting took place in a Flemish farmhouse and observed:

"It was strange for an Orange lodge to meet in a room with Roman Catholic pictures and statuary on the walls. On the Somme, except for crucifixes along the roadside, there was very little evidence of religious piety in the homes."

"Many of those who served in the Division were Orangemen and most emphatically did not leave their Orangeism at home, but brought it and its vitality with them."

The Rev W J Robinson, a Wesleyan chaplain serving with the Division, amplified this in his account of the Twelfth and of the Division's impact on the local community:

"The division has made a remarkably good impression on Seaford folk. It was thought that an Irish division would be particularly reckless, but the local paper has spoken in terms of high praise of the 'stalwart Irishmen'. It describes their conduct as exemplary, and comments on their observation of the Sabbath. I have heard quite a number of people expressing themselves to the same effect."

Robinson was curious to see how the 12th of July would be passed, and recorded the day's events as follows:

"The morning was spent in bathing parades, whole battalions in the sea at a time. In the afternoon the men were free and crowded

WEANS' WURLD

Dalriada Festival returns with more Highland fun and games

NOW in its fifth year the P&O Ferries Dalriada Festival in partnership with UTV, running from July 18-25, continues to get bigger and better every year.

But did you know that the main event, the world famous Highland Games on July 18 & 19 has been hosted at Glenarm Castle since 1994 and since then has attracted over half a million visitors?

The Festival is now recognised as one of Northern Ireland's biggest cultural family events which continues to expand and deliver fun filled entertainment under that well-known saying – something for everyone. Following a record crowd last year, the Glenarm Castle Highland Games on the opening Saturday and Sunday sees a welcome return of the strongman events alongside traditional Highland Games, while new to the games this year, and a major coup, is the County Antrim Pipe Band Championships.

There is also an expanded action packed programme of events including live wrestling, additional music stages, more local foods, pop-up restaurants, shopping, a new kids zone, and back by popular demand, the world's only sheep fashion show. On Saturday July 18 the evening music concert will rock with nostalgia as Bay City Rollers starring Les McKeown take to the main stage along with Bagatelle, Hothouse Flowers and support from Rob Strong, Runabay and XOD dancers.

Festival director Adrian Morrow says: "We're delighted to be approaching such a fantastic landmark at Glenarm Castle - 20 years of the Highland

Games and our 5th P&O Ferries Dalriada Festival.

"We are one of the few remaining long-standing annual events within the Northern Ireland events calendar and this is all down to our fantastic team, who are already working on the event for next year, as well as our partners and sponsors who enable us to continue to deliver a diverse and ever expanding programme every year.

"The line-up this year is phenomenal with more music, more food, more sport – there's just more festival for everyone. We are of course indebted to our sponsors – P&O Ferries, UTV, Tourism NI plus many more as well as our visitors, who support us every year, to who I say a huge thank you from all the team at Glenarm Castle – without you there is no festival."

Following on from the Highland Games will be an action packed week in Glenarm Village and surrounding area which will feature the biggest range of sporting events to be held at any festival in Northern Ireland. Events include beach mounted relay, Dalriada wipeout, bubbleball soccer tournament, kids duathlon, sprint triathlon, super endurocross, Dalriada 5k and 10k run, rowing and sailing regatta. Closing the festivities will be the ever spectacular fireworks finale.

• **For further information including Highland Games day passes (book online and save 20 per cent), Saturday evening concert tickets (£28.50) and camping packages visit www.dalriadafestival.co.uk and www.ticketmaster.ie**



Helping to get ready for the festival are Lyn Savage, Food N.I; strong man Chris MacNaughton and J.P McCauley as Johnny Cash. Pic: Brian Morrison



WIN A FAMILY PASS TO THE DALRIADA FESTIVAL...

To be in with a chance of winning simply answer the following question:

Q. Where is the famous Highland Games held each year?

Email your answer along with your name, address and contact number to info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk
Closing date: Monday July 20



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