



LEARN ALL ABOUT HANS SLOANE AND WIN
ULSTER-SCOTS MERCHANDISE ...PAGE 16

Ulster-Scots Agency (Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch) official publication

SATURDAY MARCH 24 2018

EDUCATION INITIATIVES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION



Richard Hanna, Director of Education and Language at The Ulster-Scots Agency, explains the importance of identifying new learning opportunities to inspire our children
Full coverage on Pages 7, 8, 9 and 10



MAKING MUSIC AT DISCOVER
ULSTER-SCOTS CENTRE

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ULSTER-SCOTS AND THE STORY OF
LINEN

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FOCUS ON WAR HERO EDMUND
DE WIND

PAGE 14

Fair faa ye



Welcome to the March 2018 edition of the Ulster-Scot. It has been a busy few months since the January edition of The Ulster-Scot was published! We hosted the seventh annual Burns Concert in the Waterfront Hall in partnership with the Ulster Orchestra featuring legendary folk duo Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain. A huge thank you to the Ulster Orchestra, Phil, Aly and everyone involved - the event was an outstanding success! More Burns news on **Pages 4, 5 and 6.**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Director of Education & Language, Richard Hanna to the Agency. A former Director of Education Strategy in the NI Council for Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), Richard comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the education sector. In recent years, partnership between the Ulster Scots Agency and CCEA has resulted in the publication of some resources with a focus on Ulster Scots history, culture and heritage, such as The Plantation of Ulster and the recently launched Woven in Ulster which focuses on the role of Ulster Scots in the linen industry. The Agency looks forward to developing teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of pupils in our Flagship schools.

Looking ahead, there is lots to look forward to this year in the Ulster-Scots calendar. The Agency's Festival Funding Programme for 2018 is now open for applications, closing April 20. To assist groups interested in making an application to this programme the Ulster-Scots Agency in partnership with the Ulster-Scots Community Network have organised a series of public information events. For more information please visit Agency's website

www.ulsterscotsagency.com/community-projects/apply-for-funding.

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

Profiling music and dance tuition in Co Donegal

The Ulster-Scots Agency has provided funding to 127 music and dance tuition projects delivered by community and voluntary groups throughout the province of Ulster. Most of these classes are up and running and over the next few editions of the Ulster-Scot, we plan to highlight some of these projects in receipt of funding from the Ulster-Scots Agency.

In this edition we profile Co Donegal, where we have funded ten music and dance tuition projects. All these projects are up and running and open to the community.

Manorcunningham Pipe Band are providing Piping and Drumming tuition in Manorcunningham Orange Hall from 8pm to 10pm on Thursdays.

Arranmore Pipe Band situated on the beautiful Arranmore island of the coast of Donegal, is providing Piping and Drumming tuition in the Arranmore Day Care Centre from 6.15pm to 8.15pm on a Monday. Raphoe Ulster-Scots Pipe Band are providing tenor drumming tuition in Raphoe Orange Hall from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on a Thursday.

Thiepval Memorial 1005 Pipe Band are providing piping and drumming tuition in Convoy Orange Hall on a Tuesday night from 8pm to 10pm. Moyne Ulster-Scots Association in South Donegal have piping and drumming tuition in Cully Orange Hall from 6pm to 8pm on a Saturday.

Raphoe Pipe Band have piping and drumming tuition in Raphoe Orange Hall from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on a Monday.

Thiepval Memorial Pipe Band are providing tuition in piping and drumming in Carnone School from 8pm to 10pm on a Tuesday.

Music Service Pipes and Drums have been funded to provide Drum Major tuition in the Raphoe Ulster-Scots Centre from 3pm to 5pm



on a Thursday. Raphoe Ulster-Scots Pipe Band have been awarded funding to deliver a Scottish Country Dance class in the Raphoe Ulster-Scots Centre from 8pm to 10pm on a Tuesday. Moyne Ulster-Scots Association have been awarded funding to deliver their Highland Dance tuition programme in Cully Orange Hall from 6pm to 8pm on a Wednesday and 10am to 12noon on a Saturday. In addition to these projects the Ulster-Scots Agency has continued

to support the development of the Ulster-Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe Band with classes in four locations including the Raphoe Ulster-Scots Centre where tuition is delivered on a Thursday from 3pm to 6pm. If you are interested in any of these classes or seek further information about our Music and Dance tuition in the Community please do not hesitate to contact our development officer Derek Reaney reaneyd@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk or 00353749173876

The Ulster-Scot

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Main office:

The Ulster-Scots Agency,
The Corn Exchange
31 Gordon Street
Belfast BT1 2LG
Telephone: (028) 9023 1113
Email: info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk

International callers dialling the Ulster-Scots Agency:

Europe - 00 44 28 9023 1113
Australia - 00 11 44 28 9023 1113
USA - 011 44 28 9023 1113

Regional office in Raphoe:

The Ulster-Scots Agency
William Street, Raphoe
Co Donegal
Telephone: +353 7 4917 3876
Email: freena@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk

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Ulster-Scots Agency
Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

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WORD OF THE ISSUE

Margymore
Meaning:
Disorder

Keeping the doors and floors turning at The Discover Ulster-Scots Centre

Building on the events delivered in the Discover Ulster-Scots Centre, 2018 has seen us off to a steady start with a range of activities designed to show the broad swathe of Ulster-Scots culture and heritage. The Ulster-Scots Community Network has been developing a programme of events that they're sure will appeal across the board.

BURNS

January saw us very busy with Burns events in the centre, in various locations around Belfast, as well as at events across the country. Matthew Warwick, our Education & Outreach officer, travelled the roads bringing Robbie and his poems and music to life for communities. The Network also took part in the Gibson Memorial events at the Linenhall Library and laid a floral tribute on behalf of the Agency at that event.



MUSIC

So far this year we've had three very successful Open Rehearsals with Drumlough Pipe Band, Ballyduff Silver Band and Baillies Mills Accordion Band holding very successful evenings in the centre showcasing their skills and their musicality and giving those attending – or watching online – a chance to hear the tunes that the bands will be playing at their concerts/ recitals or on parades this year.

PIPING & DRUMMING MASTERCLASS

Saturday 3rd March saw a Piping & Drumming Masterclass held in the Discover Ulster-Scots Centre and the Corn Exchange. We hosted over 60 people on drumming, piping – both highland pipes and small pipes – as well as whistles and practice chanters, giving participants the chance to improve their skills and knowledge. They also had the chance to play a series of tunes and the intention is to develop this further across the rest of the year. There were also talks on how to tune your pipes, reed manipulation and how music can be developed to work with orchestras and other musical formats. The last workshop had three visitors from GB and we went one better this time with four people flying in from Anglesey and the Wirral.



CRAFT SESSIONS

In February we held five days of craft events. Bob Johnston the basket maker came in to share his skills in traditional basket weaving, talking people through the history of the craft plus showing how it can be done. We had two days of skill with needles – high-lighting lace work, Whitework as well as cross-stitch. Some of the work on show was amazing and many of the skills are a fast dying art. The Irish Linen Centre came and gave a talk – from flax to fabric – explaining the process of taking flax and turning it into linen. We also delivered



a set of workshops in the centre with crafts including bookbinding, decoupage, silk painting and Polish Paper Cutting with a group of locally-based artists.

WORDS

We're also hosting a number of Poetry events – two featured the War Poets and looked at events in the First World War. The third event on the theme of Spring brought in the work of the Weaver Poets and was a follow up to the one held in December.

ONGOING EVENTS

Across the rest of March and into 2018



we'll be hosting a series of events – more Piping Masterclasses - in September and December - as well as a Fiddle & Accordion Masterclass and a Scottish Country Ceilidh at the end of March. We're looking to hold concerts and talks right across the summer and beyond and we're already planning for Culture Night in September. Keep checking our Facebook page and website for more information.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Equally as important as our events programme is the work we do within communities. Helping with planning events, providing training or advice with funding are all part of the service we offer to our member groups. If you need any help then let us know on 028 9043 6710 or info@ulster-scots.com

BURNS NIGHT 2018

Burns Night is celebrated in style at historic Ranfurly House

Killyman & District Cultural Group hosted an apt celebration of the life and works of the national bard Robbie Burns on the Ranfurly House/Hill of the O'Neill complex on Friday January 26. The event was supported by Mid Ulster Council District Council.

The large audience in attendance, which included the Chair of Mid Ulster District Council Councillor Kim Ashton and Arlene Foster MLA, were warmly welcomed by Kenny Montgomery, Chairman, Killyman & District Cultural Group.

After the welcome, there was a 'Parade of the Haggis' by Isaac Beattie from Cavanapole Historical and Cultural Group while the parade was led by Jason Ferry, a member of Aughtinbober Pipe Band and 'Men in Black'. After the *Selkirk Grace*, Isaac went on to 'Address the Haggis' followed by the Toast. The guests were then served with a Burns Night traditional meal of Scotch Broth, Haggis or chicken (for the less adventurous), tatties and neeps, - mashed potato and turnips, trifle, tea/coffee.

After the meal Kenny Montgomery, Chairman, raised a toast to Her Majesty The Queen which was followed by a talk on Robbie Burns' life story and a toast to the Immortal Memory of Robbie Burns by Isaac Beattie. David Emerson, Killyman & District Cultural Group Secretary gave a brief resume on the work of the Cultural Group, the events that will take place in 2018 and concluded with a toast to the Cultural Group.



A drum major display was provided by Louis Anderson aged 11 (All-Ireland Champion of Champions Novice Junior Drum Major).

Derek Gallagher, Secretary of Killyman District LOL No. 1, then offered a 'Toast to the Lassies' which was duly replied to with a 'Toast to the Laddies' by Joan Beggs, Grand Mistress of the Association of Loyal Orangewomen.

The Portadown Scottish Country Dancers delighted the audience with displays of traditional Scottish dance routines and was followed by Isaac's rendition of Robbie Burns' poem *The Mouse* which he duly toasted. Men in Black provided some musical entertainment in the form of some traditional piping followed by some traditional Scottish and Gospel songs.

A rendition of Robbie Burns' *Auld Lang Syne* was sung with accompaniment from Jason Ferry on the pipes and they finished off the evening with the first verse of the National Anthem.

All in, the entire event was a success especially as it was the Group's first attempt at organising and running a 'Burns Night'. Special thanks must go to Isaac Beattie for his Ulster-Scots input, his ability to address the haggis and give a rendition of some of Burns' works. Trevor McKay must also be thanked for the production of the menu and programme and The Ulster-Scots Agency for booklets on Robbie Burns. Finally thanks must also go to the entertainment for the evening, Drum Major Louis Anderson, Portadown Scottish Country Dancers and Men in Black.

Local talent showcased in BBC's *Burns an' Mair*

BBC Northern Ireland celebrated the life and work of Robert Burns with a one-hour music special recorded at Rosemary Street Presbyterian Church in Belfast.

A Burns Night concert 'Burns an' Mair' was shown on Burns Night (Thursday January 25) on BBC 2 at 9pm and was presented by singer Sylvia Burnside and Waringstown man Mark Wilson, who was also the musical director. The concert celebrating the musical legacy of Robert Burns featured internationally acclaimed Alasdair Fraser (fiddle), Natalie Haas (cello), Siobhan Miller (former Scots Traditional Singer of the Year) plus a host of local musicians including Hillsborough singer/songwriter and multi instrumentalist musician Ruth Trimble, former Lisburn & Dromore man Scott Wallace (Current All Ireland Senior Solo Piping Champion), Rasharkin-born singer/songwriter Andy Calderwood, Ballymena fiddle players Diane McCullough and Emma Nevin, accordionist Emma Colgan from Ballymena and Ballyclare High School Choir accompanied by piper Grahame Harris from Templepatrick.



Presenters Mark Wilson (musical director and assistant producer) and Sylvia Burnside pictured at the BBC recording of *Burns an' Mair*



Scottish Fiddle player Alasdair Fraser and American cello virtuoso Natalie Haas

BURNS NIGHT 2018

Schomberg Society honours Burns for the 20th year

The Schomberg Society held its special 20th anniversary Burns Night dinner in the Kilmorey Arms Hotel, Kilkeel on Saturday February 3.

Compered by Harry Baxter, the evening of music, food, crack and traditional Robbie Burns celebrations featured great entertainment courtesy of Aughnahooray Pipe Band, Schomberg Fife and Drum, Beekin Bairns Youth Choir, Kirknarra School of Dance and soloist Matthew Warwick (Ulster-Scots Community Network). Poems were recited by Wendy Hanna and music followed from the renowned 'Dancing Digits' Ceilidh Band. Pipe Major James Stevenson (Aughnahooray Pipe Band) piped in the haggis with Gareth Crozier (Schomberg Society Chairman) together with Ivana Morris, Rihanna Nicholson, Kasey Nicholson and Morgan Griffin (Kirknarra School of Dance).

Gareth gave the 'address to the haggis' and the *Selkirk Grace* and performed the all important task of cutting the haggis. Nelson McCausland gave the toast to Robbie Burns, Jim Wells MLA gave the toast to the lassies and the response was given by Roberta Heaney (Schomberg Society), Harold Henning (Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland) gave the toast to the Queen.

The evening included a full carvery meal, which was of course accompanied by a little Haggis.



A royal occasion marked in Cookstown

Mid Ulster celebrated the life of Scotland's greatest poet Robert Burns on January 19 in The Royal Hotel, Cookstown.

The night was hosted by Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band a took the form of a traditional Burns Night with everything from tartan napkins to haggis and whiskey. Guests enjoyed a three course carvery dinner, whiskey toast and ceilidh dancing from the Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band. The Haggis was

piped in by Cranny Pipe Band and addressed in true Robert Burns style by Kenny McHugh. This was then followed by the *Selkirk Grace*, *Immortal Memory* and of course, toasts to the lads and lassies. Due to popular demand the event will take place next year, check out www.alastairscott.com or Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band on Facebook were details will be announced. Photographs by Richard McKeown.



BURNS NIGHT 2018

Annual Burns Concert is another stellar success

Celebrations took place the world over in January to celebrate the life and times of Scotland's favourite son Robert 'Rabbie' Burns, who was known as the Ploughman Poet, the Bard of Ayrshire or simply The Bard

To celebrate the many links between Burns, his family and Ulster from the late 1700s to the present day, the Ulster-Scots Agency held a series of events to coincide with the Bard's birthday (he was born on January 25 1759), incorporating a programme of drama, poetry, music, concerts and lectures.



Among the highlights was the Burns Concert on January 27 in the Waterfront Hall, when traditional music legends Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain joined the Ulster Orchestra in fronting a rousing concert of music, stories, dancing and piping alongside singer Robyn Stapleton, conductor John Logan, the Ulster Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe band and the Markethill Ulster Scots Dancers. Nineteen young pipers and drummers, under the direction of Alec Brown (senior pipe major), Ian Burrows (piping tutor), Russell Tinney (drum tutor) and Kerry Doherty (Tenor Tutor), had the honour of performing with the Ulster Orchestra and friends in a sold-out event, celebrating the cultural links between Scotland and Northern Ireland.



Ulster-Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe Band pipers under the direction of Alec Brown, senior pipe major (left at front) and Ian Burrows, piping tutor (right at front), pictured performing with the Ulster Orchestra at the 'I Love Burns Night' at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast on Saturday January 27. Pictures by John Kelly



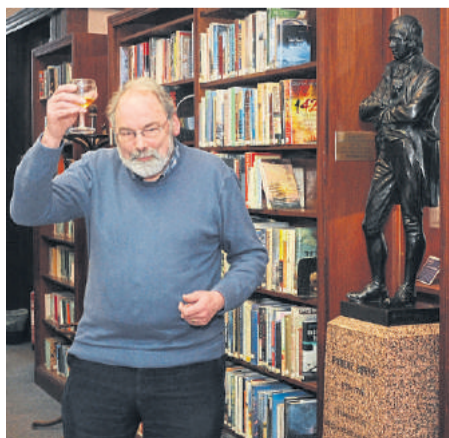
Above: Tom Scott, Ian Crozier (Chief Executive Officer, Ulster-Scots Agency), John Kelly (RSPBANI Honorary Vice-President) and Presbyterian Moderator, the Rt Rev Dr Noble McNeely pictured at the 'I Love Burns Night'. **Top left:** Andy and Martha McGregor



Mukesh Sharma MBE (Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the County Borough of Belfast), Nelson McCausland and friends

CELEBRATING BURNS AT THE LINEN HALL LIBRARY

David Gilliland (Ulster-Scots Community Network operations director) laid a wreath on behalf of the Ulster-Scots Agency at the Robert Burns statue located in the main reception area of the Library, erected in memory of his remarkable contribution to literature. The Linen Hall Library is home to the largest collection of Burns material in the world, outside of Scotland. Prior to laying the wreath John Erskine (Ulster-Scots language society) gave the *Selkirk Grace*.



Main Picture: David Gilliland (Ulster-Scots Community Network operations director), John Kelly and Matthew Warwick (Ulster-Scots Community Network) and Catriona Holmes pictured at the wreath laying at Robert Burns statue in the Linen Hall Library on Thursday January 2
Inset: John Erskine (Ulster-Scots Language Society) pictured giving the *Selkirk Grace*

New director targets education growth

The Ulster-Scot welcomes Richard Hanna, Director of Education and Language, Ulster-Scots Agency



I took up this post in December 2017 having previously been Director of Education Strategy in the NI Council for Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA). My role in CCEA involved leadership in the areas of Curriculum and Assessment. The revised Northern Ireland Curriculum introduced in 2007 provides flexibility for schools to develop teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of their pupils. Since the introduction of the revised curriculum a considerable range of teaching

and learning resources has been developed and published by CCEA for all Key Stages. In recent years, partnership between the Ulster-Scots Agency and CCEA has resulted in the publication of some resources with a focus on Ulster Scots history, culture and heritage.

These have included *The Plantation of Ulster* and the recently launched *Woven in Ulster* which focuses on the role of Ulster Scots in the linen industry. This industry is an important part of our history and heritage and it has left many legacies in architecture and place names.

The Ulster Scots Agency has also commissioned resources such as *Our Innovators* which looks at the lives and impact of Ulster Scots innovators in a number of specialist fields.

The Agency has a number of established education programmes such as Flagship,

After Schools Clubs, a twinning programme that brings together schools in Ulster with Scotland and music and dance tuition programmes.

Traditionally Burns week has presented opportunities to raise awareness of the poet, the subjects of his writing and links with Ulster.

Identifying teaching and learning opportunities relating to Ulster Scots is a key aspect of my role in the Ulster-Scots Agency. In my short time I've had the opportunity to see first-hand the fantastic things that some schools have been doing with an Ulster Scots theme.

I've been struck by the enthusiasm of teachers and the learning experiences that they have designed and closely aligned with the curriculum.

I've seen learners engaged in meaningful activities based on Ulster Scots history,

language, heritage and culture. I've seen enthusiasm and excitement in those involved and feedback from teachers has been very positive. I'd like to build on existing good practice and seek opportunities to develop new resources and support teaching and learning in ways that encourage learners to engage with Ulster Scots language, history, heritage and culture in ways that develop their understanding of the subject and contributes to broader learning objectives. This issue of the Ulster Scots has our first 'Schools in Focus' feature. This is intended to showcase the good work that's going on in schools.

I'm aware of exciting activities in many schools and would like to encourage the use of our 'Schools in Focus' feature to share experiences and practice. If you have experiences to share please contact Janis Smyth on 028 9023 1113.

Schools in Focus: Ballydown Primary, Aboon Them A'

One of the Ulster-Scots Agency Flagship schools, Ballydown Primary continues to implement Ulster-Scots culture and heritage right across the curriculum.

This dedication, was greatly praised in the last Education & Training Inspectorate (ETI) report; 'The children's oral skills and vocabulary are enhanced greatly by their study of the Ulster-Scots language and literature.'

Continued help and support by the Ulster-Scots Agency has provided excellent educational opportunities for pupils during the academic year. Musician, Keith Lyttle took a number of groups for fiddle tuition. Through his excellent teaching and commitment the school now has an outstanding group of musicians ready to perform at the Spring Concert. Pupils also benefited from the Highland Dance teaching provided by Kathryn Stewart.

Kathryn's patience and encouragement introduced Highland dance throughout the school involving pupils from P2 to P7. A group of exceptional P6 dancers will perform at the annual Spring Concert.

P7 pupils studied a variety of Ulster-Scots poems and songs, in particular the work of Robert Burns. The interest and enthusiasm shown by the pupils manifested itself at a particularly enjoyable Burns Supper/Assembly attended by both pupils and parents. At the assembly the haggis was addressed in the traditional manner, the audience then enjoyed speeches,



poems and songs all performed by the pupils. This event was followed up later in the year when the pupils visited the Burns Museum and Birthplace in Alloway, East Ayrshire. Here they had the opportunity to explore, not only the interactive exhibits in the museum but to dress up, in period costume, as they explored the Robert Burns birthplace.

Later in the year, P6 pupils visited the Ulster American Folk Park where they explored typical Ulster farmsteads emigrants left for their new life in the New World. The school has also participated in *A Kist of Words* on BBC Radio Ulster, and have performed two of Dan Gordon's plays commissioned by the agency; *The Boat Factory* and *She was Alright When She Left Us*.

Ballydown vice-principal, Trevor Russell, said: "I would strongly recommend other schools to get involved with the Ulster-Scots Agency and to utilise the many services and facilities it offers to promote Ulster Scots culture. I would also like to thank the Schomberg Society, Kilkeel for their help and support throughout the year."



Balnamore PS celebrate a Burns



Staff and pupils of Balnamore Primary School, near Ballymoney, recently held their annual Burns lunch.

For many years the school has been a beacon for Ulster-Scots activities in the area, focusing on the linguistic similarities between Ulster and Scotland.

At the event children made their way to the school assembly hall and welcomed the arrival of the haggis and a procession of staff and guests led by the school Principal Ms Jacqui Morrison and piper Mr Brian

Reynolds.

Gary Blair, education officer with the Ulster-Scots Agency, addressed the haggis with the Burns poem *Ode to the Haggis*.

Gary was in traditional dress of course.

All present then toasted the haggis with that traditional delicacy, *Irn Bru*. The event was attended by Richard Hanna, director of education and Language in the Ulster-Scots Agency and Ms Angela Graham, a linguist and researcher with an interest in Ulster Scots in schools.

Balnamore Primary School played a key role at the launch of the Agency's Ulster Scots Flagship Schools programme in November 2012, staging a drama in Ulster-Scots at the prestigious Titanic Centre. Holders of the award, the schools has continued to work with the Agency in a range of programmes including the East-West Twinning when the P7 class travelled to Scotland to meet their Twinning partners in Alloway Primary School before visiting the Burns Cottage / Museum complex.



...s lunch to remember



Reuben becomes a recording artist



Rueben, a pupil from Longstone Primary School in Ahoghill, became a voiceover artist for the day by reciting the Robert Burns poem *Up Early in the Morning*. On its website for learners, the BBC has produced an

animation of the poem. Reuben took the pressure of the recording studio in his stride and gave a confident performance. The animation can be viewed at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zctx2nb#zqhyfcw>

Woven in Ulster

Woven in Ulster, which is a range of teaching and learning resources including a website and publications based on the theme of linen, launched recently.

The resource is aimed at learners in primary (Key Stage 2) and Key Stage 3 (Year 8 post-primary).

It was commissioned by the Ulster-Scots Agency and jointly developed with the Northern Ireland Council for Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA).

The resource promotes the important role that the Ulster-Scots community played in the production of linen throughout Ulster. 'Woven in Ulster' explores the linen industry from cottages to factories; early formation and growth through to its final decline; as well as the usage of linen worldwide.

The resource is easy to use in the classroom and has been mapped to the Northern Ireland Curriculum. It provides a wide range of cross-curricular lesson plans as well as resources required to teach each lesson.

The resource was launched at a series of teacher training workshops hosted by CCEA in the Linen Museum in Lisburn. Richard Hanna, director of education and language, Ulster Scots Agency said: "This unique resource builds on an already established collabora-



tion between the Ulster-Scots Agency and CCEA. The story of linen is part of the fabric of Ulster and the industry has influenced many aspects of the world around us.

It is a story that has impacted us all. We look forward to continuing collaboration with CCEA in the future."

Janice MacArthur, the CCEA education manager with responsibility for the development of this resource said: "The linen industry was so huge that many of our pupils will have had someone in their family who either worked in a mill or had associations with a mill. I have no doubt that pupils will engage with this topic and both teachers and pupils will have an opportunity to connect with a significant part of our culture and recent past here in Northern Ireland."

The resource is web-based and can be viewed at http://ccea.org.uk/woven_ulster

Kingsmill and Longstone primary schools receive flagship awards

Eighteen months of hard work by pupils and teachers at Kingsmill and Longstone Primary Schools was rewarded with a presentation to each of an Ulster-Scots Flagship School Award from the Ulster-Scots Agency.

The awards were presented at special assemblies by Ulster-Scots Agency education officer Gary Blair, who praised the schools for their efforts and commended the teachers for their work in incorporating the Ulster-Scots, heritage, culture and language within the school.

Following the presentations, Mr Blair said: "Everyone has worked very hard to learn more about the Ulster-Scots identity of their area and we are delighted that they have achieved Ulster-Scots Flagship status." Kingsmill principal Gemma Harrison expressed her delight at receiving the award as recognition of all the hard work that underpinned teaching and learning about Ulster-Scots within her school.

She said: "We would like to thank the Ulster-Scots Agency for providing our children with so many cultural opportunities.

"We have enjoyed a range of activities from Lambeg drumming lessons to dance lessons. The pupils have really enjoyed the sessions and have learnt a lot about their heritage.

"We fully recommend the Flagship Programme and we hope to continue working with the Ulster Scots Agency in the future." Longstone principal Lemund Moody also expressed her delight at receiving the award as recognition of all the hard work that underpinned teaching and learning about Ulster-Scots within her school.

She added: "I would like to thank the Ulster-Scots Agency for providing the range of activities that we would not have been able to access otherwise, for adding value to the curriculum and for inspiring our pupils to learn more about their Ulster-Scots heritage. "Our pupils have thoroughly enjoyed



Ulster-Scots Agency's education officer Gary Blair presents the Flagship Awards to pupils from Kingsmill Primary School and Longstone Primary School (below right)



participating in the scheme. "They have been able to experience all aspects of the Ulster-Scots culture including music, dance, language, history and art and have benefited from many learning experiences from playing traditional instruments, learning about their ancestry and

trying on period costumes and also singing Christmas songs in Ulster-Scots (including *Jingle Bells*).

"They also got to participate in the 'Our Artists' project and were involved in researching the local artist John Luke and got to star in the film made for the online

resource.

"All these experiences would not have been possible if not for the Ulster Scots Agency and this wonderful programme."

Joining the Ulster Scots Flagship Programme is completely free.

By registering to participate schools commit themselves to an eighteen month programme of work which, on completion, will lead to the award of Ulster-Scots Flagship School status.

During this process, participating schools will be supported by staff from the Ulster-Scots Agency and other specialist tutors.

Schools can express their interest in the Flagship Scheme through the Agency's website at www.ulsterscotsagency.com.

For further information, contact Gary Blair at the Ulster-Scots Agency on 028 9023 1113 or gblair@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk

Following the 'Ulster Way' on US tour of a lifetime

A 'Heritage Tour' of America, covering the highly picturesque Appalachian region, is being organised next autumn with a distinct Ulster-Scots cultural and musical theme.

The nine-day tour, beginning on September 17, will be led by Ulster-Scots author Billy Kennedy (author of 11 best-selling books on the Scots-Irish in America) and a highly respected person in the Appalachian region. The tour, taking in iconic locations in Tennessee, Virginia and North Carolina, should be highly attractive to those who value the outstanding contribution made by pioneering 18th century Ulster-Scots in the making of America.

AMONG THE LOCATIONS VISITED WILL BE:

- Nashville, home of country music with shows at the famed Grand Ole Opry.
- The Hermitage, ancestral home of Presi-



- dent Andrew Jackson.
- Greeneville, home town of another Ulster-Scots President Andrew Johnson

(pictured).

- Pigeon Forge and the Dollywood theme park in East Tennessee.
 - East Tennessee's 'Ulster Way' including the birthplace at Limestone of David Crockett.
 - Cumberland Gap, where Ulster-Scots emigrants moved into Kentucky with Daniel Boone.
 - Blue Ridge Music Centre; The Crooked Road, and the Ralph Stanley Museum, Virginia.
 - Charlotte, North Carolina, a city founded by Ulster-Scots Presbyterian emigrants.
- The 'Heritage Tour' price is £1,959 with tax



£89. This includes staying at best recommended hotels, with meals, and travelling in a luxury coach over the entirety of the tour. The party will fly out from Dublin to Nashville on Monday September 17, returning from Charlotte to Dublin on September 25.

Contact details for those wishing to sign up to the tour are: 00353 15710699 or 0044 203 9349965
email: deirdre.grant@joewalstours.ie or go online www.joewalstours.ie

DOCUMENTARY: *The Man who told the truth*

As Donald Trump, the 45th President of the United States, begins his second year in office, BBCNI presented a landmark documentary detailing the life and times of Founding Father, Charles Thomson - a remarkable Ulster-Scot, from the townland of Gortead near Maghera.

He was the secretary of America's first Congress and played a central role in creating the United States. As the only permanent office-holder in a fragile new country, he virtually ran the administration for over a decade before conferring on George Washington the new job of President in 1789.

In human terms, Thomson's story is inspiring. When Charles was ten he found himself destined for America with his father, John, who was hopeful of a better life in the New World. John died on the voyage and Charles arrived on the shores of a land 3,000 miles from his home, a destitute orphan. Despite this terrible beginning he rose through America's elite to become one of its Founding Fathers, collaborating along the way with distinguished figures like Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson.

Meticulous in all that he said and did, Charles Thomson acquired a reputation for honesty, particularly in his dealings with the native American people of Pennsylvania. He was even adopted by them and given the name, *The Man Who Told the Truth*.

The career of this extraordinary Ulster-Scot was traced by Bruce Clark, a veteran foreign news reporter for the *Economist* and the *Financial Times*, who like Thomson, grew up in Gortead townland and still calls it home. In course of the film, Bruce travelled to America to follow in Thomson's footsteps and unravel his gripping story.

The film featured contributions from family members, historians and politicians, and



Paul Glastris, speech writer for Bill Clinton, with Bruce Clark at the White House

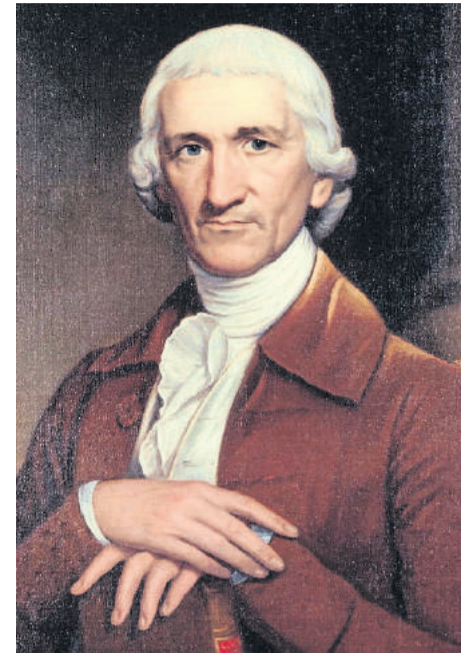
it took viewers on an incredible journey. It started from Charles Thomson's birthplace near Maghera, to the place where he first set foot in the New World, to the historical monuments of Philadelphia and ultimately to the present-day seats of American power in Washington DC, including Capitol Hill and the White House.

For all the vast differences between America now and then, the film also brought home an amazing continuity in the country's institutions. It included remarkable footage of documents, freshly signed by President Trump, being embossed with the Great Seal, the talisman of American power whose design was chosen by Charles Thomson. This manual procedure has not changed in essence since the time 229 years ago when Thomson, after a week-long ride to Mount Vernon, formally transferred the Seal to the



custody of George Washington, thus endowing the general with the symbolic trappings of a newly created office.

Producer Kathryn Baird said: "Piecing together Thomson's story and learning how crucial



Charles Thomson and inset, the Great Seal

his Ulster-Scots honesty and forthrightness were to the formation of the United States, has been a memorable and rewarding challenge."

Director Mal Marken added: "It was a privilege to be tasked with bringing the extraordinary life story of Charles Thomson to the screen and to be given the opportunity to reflect on just how pioneering, exceptional and ground-breaking this Ulster-Scot really was."

With support from NI Screen's Ulster-Scots Broadcast Fund, this one-hour documentary film is made by the Belfast-based independent production company, Imagine Media.

Ulster-Scots coach tours of North Down and Lower Ards

In 1606, two Scottish lairds, Sir James Hamilton and Sir Hugh Montgomery settled large numbers of Scots in the Ards Peninsula.

These upcoming tours will look at the legacy of the settlement in terms of people, places, history, heritage, literature and language.

Departing from Newtownards Visitor Centre (31 Regent Street, Newtownards) in a quality coach, the tour covers Ards, Bangor, Groomsport, Donaghadee, Millisle, Ballywalter, Greyabbey, Carrowdore, Comber and Holywood.

Led by Blue Badge Tourist Guide and local historian/author, Laura Spence of Hidden Ulster Tours, these trips will blend educational commentary with quirky anecdotes, literary references and old images to create an engag-

ing, fun and memorable trip. There will be stops for morning coffee and lunch (not included in cost). Please advise of any special dietary requests. Tickets cost £30 and are on a first-come, first-served basis. To book your place, please email ispence@hiddenulstertours.com.

DATES

- Monday April 23, 9.30am - 4.00pm (only 2 places left)
- Tuesday June 26, 9.30am - 4.00pm
- Wednesday September 5, 9.30am - 4.00pm.

These coach tours can also be arranged for private groups (contact Laura Spence to discuss) and historic walking tours of Ulster-Scots towns and villages can also be accommodated.



OLD CROSS, NEWTOWNARDS

RECIPES

COOKING WITH JUDITH McLAUGHLIN



Delicious hot cross buns

This legendary recipe dates back to the 12th century when it was eaten after lent, the 40 days before Easter and on Good Friday. Another song we used to sing as children was of course, *Hot Cross Buns Hot Cross Buns, One a Penny, Two a Penny, Hot Cross Buns*

INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups of all purpose flour
- ¼ cup of fine granulated sugar
- 2 tsp of mixed spice (cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves)
- 4 ½ tsp dry active yeast
- 2 large eggs (lightly beaten)
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- ¾ tsp salt
- 1 cup seedless raisins
- ½ cup mixed peel
- 1 ¼ cup milk
- 4 Tbsp of butter
- (cross paste)
- ½ cup all purpose flour
- 5-6 Tbsp of water
- (sugar glaze)
- 5 Tbsp of water
- 2 Tbsp of fine granulated sugar



HOW TO MAKE IT:

1. Combine the flour, sugar, mixed spice, yeast, raisins and mixed peel in a large bowl of mixer. Place the milk and three Tbsp butter in a small saucepan and warm over low heat until the butter has melted. Combine the dry ingredients with the warm milk and butter and the beaten eggs to form slightly sticky dough. Knead the dough until it is smooth and elastic, about five minutes. Shape in to a ball.
2. Brush the inside of a large bowl with remaining one Tbsp butter. Put dough in to bowl, turning to coat lightly with butter. Cover with plastic wrap. Let rise at room temperature until doubled in size, about one hour. (The dough can be made the night before and allowed to rise in the refrigerator overnight).
3. To form the rolls butter a 9x14 inch baking pan. Turn the dough out of the bowl and using a bench scrapper divide in to 12 equal portions, about two ounces each.
4. Tuck the edges of the dough under to make round rolls and place them seam-side down in the prepared pan, leaving a little space in between each roll. Set aside in a warm place until the rolls rise doubled in size, about 25-30 minutes.



MILLTOWN ACCORDION BAND

— GOSPEL CONCERT —

This activity has been made possible by the support
of the Ulster-Scots Agency

CULLYBACKEY COLLEGE

SATURDAY 24TH MARCH 2018 @ 7.45PM

Featuring

Ann, Janice & Linda | Grace In Harmony | John Porter |
Milltown Accordion Band | Reverend Gary Millar (Comper)

TICKETS £6 EACH OR PAY AT THE DOOR

Part proceeds to Air Ambulance NI | Registered Charity Number NIC103900






Red Hot Chilli Pipers and Ulster Scots Juvenile Pipe Band perform onstage at the SSE Arena

BY VICTORIA CATTERSON

With pipes and drums comes great opportunities, be it travelling the world one Tattoo at a time, or performing on stage at great venues.

The Ulster Scots Juvenile Pipe Band have managed to perform at the Lorient Festival in Brittany two years in a row and play the Waterfront Hall numerous times as part of Burns Night celebrations.

But more recently members of the band have performed at the SSE Arena in Belfast along with quite possibly the most well-known piping group in the world – the Red Hot Chilli Pipers.

Young pipers and drummers jumped at the chance to make music with the group that made piping cool (although the members of the Juvenile Pipe Band are doing a pretty good job of that themselves).

The Red Hot Chilli Pipers invited the band on stage to play the classic concert tune Highland Cathedral; along with something a little more upbeat in the Avicii dance anthem *Wake Me Up*.

After arriving at the Arena and tuning up, the young musicians headed out to the ice-rink to participate in the sound-check and have a rehearsal. Although they may be young, they acted like true professionals and impressed the Chilli Pipers greatly; with both their playing and behaviour.

After taking a dander around the Arena, everyone was treated to pizza before watch-



ing the first half of the show. Nerves were nowhere to be seen, as the Juvenile Pipe Band took to the stage and got a roaring reception, and the audience gave them a standing ovation.

No doubt it's a show that they won't forget in a hurry – and who knows, maybe one or more of the Ulster-Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe Band's members could be the next Chilli piper or drummer!

Ulster-Scots Juvenile Pipe Band Profile

In the spotlight this issue is Robbie McLean (by Victoria Catterson)

Young Robbie McLean certainly takes in all that the Ulster-Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe Band has to offer; he's already performed in the Waterfront Hall, twice, and the SSE Arena. And he's only 12! Robbie also plays other instruments including guitar, viola and piano and loves all the opportunities he gets through the band. When he's not playing huge arenas and halls, the young drummer enjoys playing at the likes of the Burnavon and Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park in Lisburn; he's even played on the beach in Larne. Unsurprisingly though, his favourite gig so far has been playing on stage at the SSE Arena in Belfast with the Red Hot Chilli Pipers.

Age: 12

Education: Drumragh Integrated College, Omagh

Band: Ulster-Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe Band only

Hobbies outside of piping: Coding, guitar, piano, viola and gaming



How long have you been drumming?
I have been drumming for about three years.

How/where did you learn to drum?

I first started the snare drum in Year 6 in Cooley Primary School in Sixmilecross through the Ulster Scots schools programme for about a year but then I went to RSPBANI/MSPD Summer School in the Burnavon, Cookstown.

After that I started going to Ulster Scots Agency Juvenile Pipe Band classes on Wednesday evenings with Geoff in Cookstown and learned more there. I also go to RSPBANI classes on Saturday mornings in Cookstown.

What attracted you to drumming and pipe bands?

The thing that attracted me to drumming and pipe bands was their music and the sounds of the instruments together.

What do you enjoy most about piping and performing with the Ulster-Scots Juvenile Pipe Band?

I get so many opportunities, like the past two years I have played at the Waterfront in Belfast at Burns Night and recently I got to play in the SSE Arena with the Red Hot Chilli Pipers; but those are just the main events I've played at, I have performed at many more events.

How often do you practice?

I would practice regularly and if I don't have my drum with me I just tap my fingers which helps me learn tunes.

Is there anything you aspire to achieve in drumming - for example winning the worlds, playing in Grade One, winning solo competitions, becoming a tutor etc?

My goal for drumming is to just be involved in as many events as I can and to get my grades.

Are there any drummers in particular that you enjoy listening to/aspire to play like?

I've played with Grade One drummer Arren McWilliams and would like to get to his standard of playing.

What advice would you give to someone who would like to start drumming?

To anyone who is just starting snare drum I suggest keeping at it; and keep practicing.

To follow the young pipers and drummers visit

www.facebook.com/ulsterscotsjuvenilepipeband.

Meanwhile for more on the teaching programme visit www.mspd.co.uk.

Ulster-Scots group are proudly crowned Northern Ireland's 'Wedding Entertainer of the Year'

The well-known Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band have been crowned Northern Ireland Wedding Entertainer of the Year for 2018.

Hosted by Creative Oceanic, the Northern Ireland Wedding Awards 2018 recognise and reward the talent and expertise of those in the wedding industry that make the big day the best it can be.

The glamorous event took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Belfast on Monday January 29. The band were up against nine of the best entertainment providers in Northern Ireland and having made the final in 2017, they were shocked and delighted when host Barra Best announced Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band as the winner of 2018 Wedding Entertainer of the Year category.

Formed in 2004, the band have years of gigging experience behind them and have performed at everything from small functions to the more elaborate of corporate events, starred in a Hallmark movie *The Cabin* and even played at the 40th birthday of a rock legend. The band said: "To be rewarded for something that we love doing so much is a wonderful feeling and one which we are very proud of and we owe a massive thank you to everyone who nominated us, we couldn't have done it without your support."

Check out the band's website, at www.alastairscott.com and Facebook page for details on how to book them or where to purchase their CD *My Kind of Music*.



Edmund De Wind: a war hero of valour, self-sacrifice and example

Edmond De Wind was born in Railway Street, Comber, on 11 December 1883, the youngest child of Arthur Hughes De Wind and Margaret Jane Stone.

Arthur was born in India and was of Dutch ancestry. He was a civil engineer and was briefly the chief engineer of the Belfast and County Down Railway. Margaret Jane was a member of a long established Comber family who resided at Barn Hill. Arthur and Margaret were married in St Mary's Parish Church, Comber, in April 1863.

The marriage produced nine children, seven of whom were still alive in 1911 (according to the census of that year). From that source we also know that three daughters were born in India. Empire featured prominently in the life of the family.

Edmund was educated at Campbell College where he was a keen sportsman, playing tennis, hockey and cricket. He played cricket for North Down.

On completing his formal education in 1900, he joined the Bank of Ireland and worked briefly in Belfast and in Cavan until 1911 when he emigrated to Canada. His older brothers followed their father's profession. At least one brother and a sister also emigrated to Canada, further evidence that Empire loomed large in the family's horizons. In Canada he was employed by the Imperial Bank of Commerce, initially working in Toronto before becoming based in Edmonton in Alberta. In Toronto he had acquired some military experience in the 2nd Regiment Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, a militia unit.

When the Great War broke out in 1914, he enlisted in the 31st Battalion of the Canadian Infantry. A patriotic family, a sister served as a nurse in France.

On 29 May 1915, Private De Wind embarked for England aboard the SS Northland. He moved to France on 19 September 1915 with the Machine Gun Section of the 31st Battalion. He saw action in the Ypres Salient at St Eloi in 1915 and at Courcellette on the Somme in September 1916. He did not participate in the celebrated Cana-

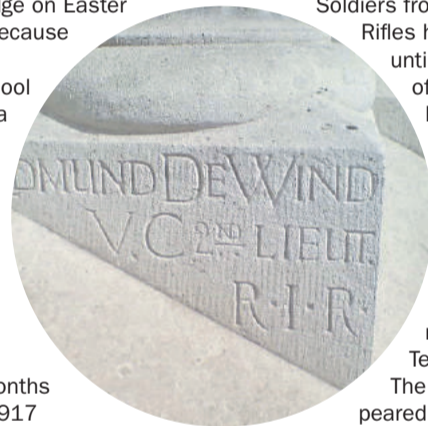


“On two occasions, with two NCOs only, he got out on top under heavy machine gun and rifle fire, and cleared the enemy out of the trench, killing many. He continued to repel attack after attack until he was mortally wounded and collapsed.”

dian assault on Vimy Ridge on Easter Monday (9 April) 1917 because on 20 March 1917 he transferred to Cadet School with a view to obtaining a commission.

On 25 September 1917 Edmund obtained a commission with the 17th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles in Dundalk and, two months later, he went to the 15th Battalion. Edmund's father had died some seven months earlier on 22 February 1917 (aged 79).

On 21 March 1918 the 36th (Ulster) Division was holding a weakly defended sector of the British front line and Forward Zone south west of St Quentin. The Germans launched a ferocious bombardment at 4:35 which continued until 9:40. Then German troops advanced under the cover of fog. British defences here consisted of a number of isolated redoubts, in which the Ulstermen held on for several hours while under heavy bombardment. They were ultimately surrounded and cut off by the new German storm troop tactics



Soldiers from the 12th Royal Irish Rifles held on at Le Pontchu until 15:30 and a company of the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers held on at Essigny Plateau until 16:30.

Thirty-four year-old Second Lieutenant De Wind was in charge of Race Course Redoubt, which straddled the railway line between Terginer and St Quentin.

The citation, which appeared in London Gazette of 13 May 1919, announcing the award of his posthumous Victoria Cross, describes his heroic action extremely well and succinctly: “For most conspicuous bravery and self-sacrifice on the 21st March, 1918, at the Race Course Redoubt, near Grugies. For seven hours he held this most important post, and though twice wounded and practically single-handed, he maintained his position until another section could be got to his help. On two occasions, with two NCOs only, he got out on top under heavy machine gun and rifle fire, and cleared the enemy out of the trench, killing many. He

continued to repel attack after attack until he was mortally wounded and collapsed. His valour, self-sacrifice and example were of the highest order.”

The News Letter of 30 June 1919 reported: “At an investiture held at Buckingham Palace on Saturday His Majesty the King handed to Mrs De Wind, of Comber, County Down, the Victoria Cross posthumously awarded to her son, Second Lieutenant Edmund De Wind, 15th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. Mrs De Wind was accompanied by Miss De Wind and Mrs J. G. Allen [two daughters].”

While waiting in the Palace anteroom for the ceremony to begin, the King noticed the frail and elderly Mrs De Wind and instructed an equery to arrange a private audience. This act of kindness on the part of the King spared Mrs De Wind a long wait.

The date of the presentation was the fifth anniversary of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo, the incident which set in motion the chain of events which resulted in the outbreak of the Great War, and the date on which the treaty between the Allies and Germany was signed at Versailles.

As Edmund has no known grave, he is commemorated on the Pozières Memorial to the Missing (Panel 74 to 76). This memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918. A tablet to his memory may also be found in Comber Parish Church.

Edmund is commemorated in a number of other ways. The first memorial to Edmund is a pillar his mother caused to be carved at the main entrance on the west front of St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast. The pillar bears his name and the date of his death. The west front was dedicated to the men from Northern Ireland who died in the Great War. It was dedicated in 1927. There is a plaque to his memory in his alma mater, Campbell College, Belfast. A housing estate in Comber is named in his honour as is Mount De Wind, Alberta, Canada.

Ulster-Scots Heritage Tour

David Hume will guide you to enjoy an Ulster Scots Heritage tour, incorporating significant points of interest from Carrickfergus, Ballycarry, Larne, Glenarm and Cullybackey.

A Traditional Piper will welcome you 'home' to enjoy your Ulster Scots dinner in the setting of Scottish built 17th century Ballygally Castle. Steeped in history, retire for the night, in comfort before your local produce breakfast the next morning.

Ballygally - Ballygally Castle 10am
Our meeting point at Ballygally Castle with Tay, Scones & Shortbread accompanied by the James Orr Tay Poem before boarding your luxury coach for the journey ahead.

Carrickfergus - St. Nicholas Church

Ballybefore - Jackson Cottage & US Rangers Centre

Ballycarry - Templecorran Cementary

Larne - Views of Olderfleet Castle, Princess Victoria Memorial & Chain Tower

Larne - The Prom Café lunch, with views to Scotland

Glenarm - St Patrick's Church

Cullybackey - Arthur's Cottage

Ballygally - Ballygally Castle welcomes you 'home' to check into your room, with free time to then be welcomed by the piper, wee dram & Ulster Scots dinner, overnight stay and breakfast

Bookings can be made through the website at

www.toastthecoastni.com/menu-of-tours/



Marking the bicentenary of esteemed writer of carols, hymns and ballads

BY GORDON LUCY

At Christmastide, the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols begins with *Once in Royal David's City*, the first verse being sung unaccompanied by a solo chorister. On Easter Sunday morning churchgoers all round the world sing *There is a green hill far away*. Both hymns are from the pen of Cecil Frances Alexander. Thus Mrs Alexander's work features prominently in the two great festivals of the Christian calendar throughout the world.

Although the celebrated hymn-writer and poetess was born in Dublin in April 1818 (the exact day is unknown), Mrs Alexander spent the greater part of her life in north-west Ulster in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe, living in Strabane between 1833 and 1850 and 1860 and 1867, in Castlederg between 1850 and 1855, in Upper Fahan between 1855 and 1860, and in Londonderry between 1867 and 1895.

Cecil Frances Humphreys was the daughter of Major John Humphreys, formerly of the Royal Marines, and his wife, Elizabeth Reed. Major John Humphreys was land-agent to 4th Earl of Wicklow up to 1833 and to the 2nd Marquess of Abercorn thereafter.

Fanny (as she was usually known) began writing verse in her childhood and, in collaboration with Lady Harriet Howard, daughter of the Earl of Wicklow, she produced a number of religious tracts. These were initially published separately but were published subsequently as a compilation in 1848. Her religious work was strongly influenced by her contacts with the High Church Oxford Movement (or Tractarians) and in particular with John Keble, the English poet, Professor of Poetry at Oxford from 1831 to 1841, and one of the leaders of the movement. It was his famous Assize Sermon on 'National Apostasy' in Oxford in 1833, prompted by the Whig government's suppression of ten Church of Ireland bishoprics, which gave rise to the movement.

As a young person, Fanny had been very impressed by Keble's *The Christian Year* which appeared in 1827. She and her friend Harriet in their early teens both knew nearly all of its 300 pages by heart. In her mid-twenties she decided to produce *Verses for Holy Seasons*, a junior version for the use of clergy and Sunday school teachers. In her dedication she paid tribute to Keble without actually mentioning him by name: 'To the author of *The Christian Year*, this attempt to adapt the great principles of his immortal work to the exigencies of the schoolroom, is inscribed with feelings of reverence and respect, by one of the many thousands who have profited by his labours.'

By the 1840s Fanny was well known as a hymn writer and her compositions were appearing in Church of Ireland hymnals. In 1848 *Hymns for Little Children* was published. She invited Keble to write a preface and he responded by contributing a short



"Mrs Alexander's work features prominently in the two great festivals of the Christian calendar throughout the world."

introduction, described as 'Notice'.

The book was intended to explain the content of 'The Apostles' Creed' by answering the obvious but searching questions which children often ask. For example, 'Where was Jesus born?' was answered by 'Once in royal David's city'. The answer to 'Why did He have to die?' was provided by 'There is a green hill far away'. Her response to 'Who made the world?' was 'All things bright and beautiful'. The book reached its sixty-ninth edition before the close of the nineteenth century. These hymns remain three of the most popular hymns in the English language. Fanny was romantically attracted in this

period to William Archer Butler. Reputed to be 'the cleverest man in Ireland', Archer Butler became Professor of Moral Philosophy at Trinity College, Dublin, when he graduated (his intellectual prowess was such that the chair was created with him in mind) and Rector of Raymochy near Dunfanaghy. While engaged in famine relief, he caught 'famine fever' (typhus) and died very suddenly in July 1848. Fanny, many years later, told her daughters that she had been in love with Archer Butler and that it was his death which had prevented the match. In October 1850 she married William Alexander, an Anglican clergyman, who became

Bishop of Derry and Raphoe in 1867 and Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland in 1896. His family was greatly perturbed that his bride was six years older than he was. This is why Mrs Alexander's date of birth has appeared in some works of reference as 1823.

She was an indefatigable visitor to poor and sick and heavily involved in charitable work. Money from her first publications had helped build the Derry and Raphoe Diocesan Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, which was founded in 1846 in Strabane. The profits from *Hymns for Little Children* were donated to the school.

She wrote 'Jesus calls us o'er the tumult' while she was at Termnamongan, near Castlederg. It first appeared in 'Narrative Hymns for Village Schools' (1853). On 1 January 1871 the Church of Ireland ceased to be the Established Church in Ireland. She penned a somber hymn, which is not one of her better known hymns, to mark what for the membership of Church of Ireland was a traumatic occasion:

'Dimly dawns the New Year on a churchless nation,

Ammon and Amalek tread our borders down.'

In 1889, at the request of H. H. Dickinson, Dean of the Chapel Royal at Dublin Castle, she produced an English version of a Gaelic poem entitled *St. Patrick's Breastplate* found in the 'Liber Hymnorum'. The hymn is also known by its opening line: 'I bind unto myself today'. It is currently included in the 'English Hymnal', 'The Irish Church Hymnal' and 'The Hymnal' of the American Episcopal Church. She died at the Bishop's Palace in Londonderry on 12 October 1895 and is buried in the City Cemetery. A posthumous collection of her poems, edited by her husband, appeared in 1896.

Mrs Alexander may not have been an Ulster-Scot by some criteria but she certainly married an Ulster-Scot and she wrote the *Legend of Stumpie's Brae*, a ballad in Ulster-Scots which won the admiration of Lord Tennyson. A ghost story, it begins: 'Heard ye no tell o' Stumpy's Brae? Sit doon, sit doon, young freen', 'I'll mak your flesh to creep this night and your hair to stan' on end.'

The ballad in full may be consulted at www.ulsterscotslanguage.com/en/texts/poetry/the-legend-of-stumpie-s-brae/

There are two excellent biographies of the hymn writer: E.W. Lovell, *A Green Hill Far Away: A Life of Mrs C.F. Alexander* (1970) and Valerie Wallace, *Mrs Alexander* (1995). Valerie Wallace points out that almost all the houses and churches known to Mrs Alexander during her lifetime are still standing. The only conspicuous exception is No. 25 Eccles Street, Dublin, the house in which was born. Unfortunately it has been demolished. Thus, using Valerie Wallace's splendid book, it is possible to visit most of sites associated with life and hymns of 'the queen of Irish hymn writers'.

WEANS' WURLD**WHY HANS WAS
HANDS DOWN
THE BEST!**

When you bite into your chocolate egg this Easter, think of Hans Sloane from Killyleagh in County Down. This famous Ulster Scot was to become the man who invented milk chocolate!

He was also a physician to royalty (King George II's doctor) and a famous botanist, whose collections of specimens, books and manuscripts formed a large part of the British Museum when it opened in London in 1759. Many places in London, like Sloane Square, have been named after him.

Born in 1660, Hans was the youngest of seven boys. His father had come over in 1603 with a Scottish colony led by James Hamilton to settle in Ulster. When he was a young boy, Hans was very curious. He spent a lot of time gathering plants around the shores of Strangford Lough. He was also interested in diseases and noticed that the local people chewed dulce to keep them healthy. At the age of nineteen Hans



went to study medicine in London and also learnt how to prepare medicines from plants. Hans went on to become a renowned doctor. He played an important part in establishing the practice of inoculation against Smallpox. He also advised the Royal Navy how to keep ships' crews healthy and free from diseases such as Scurvy. Among his many important friends were Sir Isaac Newton, Samuel Pepys and composer, G.F Handel.



Did you Know?
Hans invented a health drink for Jamaican children, by mixing chocolate with cows' milk and sugar to produce milk chocolate, a recipe that was used by Cadbury's until 1885.



"Hans Sloane was the famous Ulster Scot who invented milk chocolate!"

**the Ulster-Scot
COMPETITION****WIN
ULSTER-SCOTS
MERCHANDISE**

We have five multi-packs of Ulster-Scots Agency merchandise to give away if you can answer this question: **WHAT FAMOUS COMPOSER WAS ONE OF HANS SLOAN'S FRIENDS?**

Email your answer to competition@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk with 'Chocolate' in the subject line. Please remember to include your name and contact details.

CLOSING DATE: MAY 3 2018

Alternatively post your answer to:
**Ulster Scots Agency,
The Corn Exchange,
31 Gordon Street, Belfast, BT1 2LG**

**LAST ISSUE'S WINNER
A pass to W5 Belfast**

Congratulations to Raymond McIlroy from Carrickfergus who completed last issue's special Burns' Night Crossword puzzle correctly.

PLACE TO VISIT: Ranfurly House, Dungannon

Gateway to the historic Hill of The O'Neill, Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre is the perfect starting point for an exploration of the Dungannon and Tyrone area.

It is located in the former Belfast Bank - a beautiful mid Victorian centre-piece at the heart of Dungannon town - and also sits beneath one of Ireland and Europe's most important heritage sites, Hill of The O'Neill. From here the famous O'Neill dynasty utilised a stunning 360 degrees view of the province of Ulster to rule Gaelic Ireland for over 300 years.

The centre contains a multi-media exhibition narrating the Hill's importance in Irish and European history, its links to the O'Neills and the subsequent Flight of the Earls and Plantation of Ulster. The venue is also a fully functioning arts and tourism centre with a 90-seat Square Box performance space, arts studio, tourism information centre and shop. Visitors can also relax and enjoy great coffee in the centre's La Scala Café where free Wi-Fi is also available.



"The famous O'Neill dynasty utilised a stunning 360 degrees view of the province of Ulster to rule Gaelic Ireland for over 300 years."

**OPENING HOURS**

April to September:
Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm
October to March: 9am-5pm | Sunday Closed

ADDRESS

26 Market Square, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone
BT70 1AB

CONTACT

T: +44(0)28 8772 8600
E: ranfurly@midulstercouncil.org