



Ulster-Scots recipes P14

Ulster-Scots Agency (Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch) official publication **SATURDAY JANUARY 19 2013**

Time for a gaitherin as Burns Night celebrations draw near



Events are taking place at a number of venues during January to mark the 254th birthday of Robert Burns. We explore the strong links between the iconic poet, the people of Ulster and their traditions.

Pages 4&5



P7-9

Special three-page focus on the Ulster Volunteer Force: the last Covenanting Army



P12

Behind the scenes at Belfast's Linenhall Library ahead of its 225th anniversary



P15

Another successful run for fUSE FM Ballymoney

Fair faa ye



Welcome to the January 2013 edition of the *Ulster-Scot*. As it is our first edition of the New Year, I will start by wishing you a Happy New Year with a traditional Ulster-Scots wish – lang may yer lum reek wi ither fowks coal! What does this mean? I hear you ask. It is a traditional greeting which in the broadest sense means live long and happily. It is a very colourful and frequently used phrase with its origin firmly in the Scots language. Literally, the greeting means long may your chimney smoke with other people's coal. This is very likely a reference to the tradition of "first-footing", which happens after the bells at midnight on Auld Year's Night/New Year's Day, when it is traditional for your first visitor to bring a piece of coal for your fire. Having plenty of friends will bring you much happiness as well as much coal! I am delighted to report that we have received a great deal of positive feedback on our last edition – the first since our re-launch. This has been very encouraging to us and we will work to maintain the paper at this same high level.

As always, I would encourage you to get in touch via our Facebook page with any feedback/ideas you may have. As we approach Burns' Night, thoughts turn to the immortal bard who had so much connection with Ulster, in terms of family; many devoted readers and the great body of Ulster-Scots poets he inspired, even during his own life; and this is reflected in the current edition. We have the regular articles on Ulster-Scots events to attend and places to go; and our history section this edition marks the centenary of the foundation, 100 years ago this month, of the Ulster Volunteers – The Last Covenanting Army. We hope that there is something of interest to everyone.

:: Ian Crozier is chief executive of the Ulster-Scots Agency

PS: Don't forget to enter our great Burns competition on page 16!

The Ulster-Scot

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Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

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Ulster-Scots Agency
Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

Introducing the Ulster-Scots Language Society

The Ulster-Scots Language Society was formed in 1992 by a group of enthusiasts who were concerned about the decline in numbers of Ulster-Scots speakers.

Their intention was to reassert the dignity of the language, work for an improvement in its status and encourage its use in both speech and writing.

The Society's annual journal, *Ullans*, showcases Ulster-Scots writings, old and new. The last edition, published at the beginning of 2012, includes such varied entries as a poem by David Hume MBE about the Aldfreck coalmining disaster, and one by Mark Thompson entitled *Address to a Nintendo DS*.

The Society has, over the years, published more than 30 books in and about Ulster-Scots. The two best-sellers are James Fenton's *Hamely Tongue: A Dictionary of Modern County Antrim Ulster-Scots*, and Philip Robinson's *Ulster-Scots: A Grammar of the Traditional Written and Spoken Language*. Both are invaluable reference books for native speakers and newcomers to the language alike. Some of other popular publications include reprints of W.G. Lyttle's *Betsy Gray or, Hearts of Down: A Tale of Ninety-Eight* and Archibald McLroy's

The Auld Meetin'-Hoose Green.

In 2011, the Society worked with Newtownabbey Borough Council and the Ulster History Circle (funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Ulster-Scots Agency), to erect a commemorative plaque to McLroy on the Town Hall in Ballyclare.

Many of the Society's more active members are deeply involved in projects such as the Bible translation, led by Philip and Heather Saunders of Wycliffe Bible Translators. This work has already led to the publication, in 2011, of *Guid Wittens frae Docter Luik: The Gospel According to Luke in Ulster-Scots*.

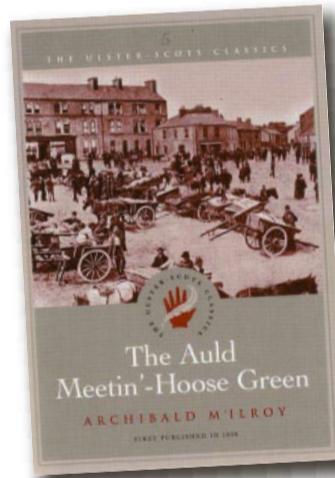
Translations of the other three Gospels will be published this year. Other publications planned for 2013 include a new edition of *Ullans*, which will be available this month, and reprints of some other popular works by W.G. Lyttle, including *Daft Eddie or the Smugglers of Strangford Lough*. We are also in the process of digitising our publications so that they are available as e-book downloads, for use on devices such as Kindles and iPads.

Members of the Society are encouraged to join in with all the various projects, and also to try their hand at writing in Ulster-Scots – submissions for *Ullans* are always welcome.

The Society plans to employ a

development officer in the near future who will work with members on the ground to organise on a regional basis.

The Ulster-Scots Language Society is non-political and welcomes as members all those who are willing to uphold its objectives. Annual membership is £8 for an individual and £12 for a family or organisation. A concessionary rate of £5 applies to members who are retired or unemployed. Members receive a copy of each new edition of *Ullans* for free, and 20 per cent discount on all other publications. It also keeps members informed of any functions hosted by the Society, including the AGM, which members are welcome to attend.



If you are interested in becoming a member of the Society, you can join online by visiting our website: www.ulsterscotslanguage.com. Alternatively, you can call **028 90 436716**, or email info@ulsterscotslanguage.com, and an application form will be sent in the post. The website has more information about the Society, along with various articles, prose and poetry, which can be accessed for free. You can also purchase publications via the site.

Click on this

- For details of what's on check out our events calendar - www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events
- For Ulster-Scots news - www.ulsterscotsagency.com/news
- To sign up for the Ulster-Scots E-Newsletter - visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com/newsletter/subscribe/ register your details and receive updates on the areas that you are most interested.
- Join us on Facebook - visit www.facebook.com/UlsterScotsAgency now and like our page to keep up to date on what's happening, upload your photos from Ulster-Scots events and share your comments.

Follow us on...



WORD OF THE ISSUE

“crack”

Meaning: Jolly conversation

Ulster-Scots drama *Wae a Heart an a Half* tours counties Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan



In late 2012 the Ulster-Scots Agency commissioned a travelling drama for a number of primary schools in the border counties of Ulster.

Nine national schools from counties Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan took part in the Ulster-Scots drama project during 2012, led by Stephanie Kenny Quinn from Class Act Drama, and plans are in place to extend the project to a further six schools during 2013 across Northern Ireland. The play is entitled *Wae a Heart an a Half* and was written by local playwright, Philip Orr. This play tells the story of four young local men who go off to fight in World War I with a heart and a half and charts their time training, fighting in the trenches and ultimately three of their deaths. It's a poignant and historical look at what made these young men sign up to fight and also how their deaths affected those back home. *Wae a Heart an a Half* has been part of the programme at various Ulster-Scots drama summer schools – it was first introduced in Ballywalter in County Down, it continued to Westbourne Presbyterian Church in east Belfast and then on to Banbridge. In August the play became part of Fermanagh Ulster-Scots Empowerment's Ulster-Scots

drama summer school, with 22 young people taking part and the performance at Kesh Primary School to an audience who all agreed it was a resounding success. The Ullans Speakers Association became involved in the project when Fermanagh Ulster-Scots Empowerment (FUSE) wanted the children to learn the correct pronunciation of the Ulster-Scots vocabulary within the play. They visited Enniskillen several times and spent many enjoyable hours teaching and helping the children to pronounce words that were entirely new to them. It was truly amazing how quickly the children picked up the Ulster-Scots language, particularly as they live in an area where Ullans is not commonly spoken or in every day use. After drama workshops from Stephanie Kenny Quinn and language tuition from the Ullans Speakers Association, the play was performed at the end of the week long summer school much to the enjoyment of the children who took part and the audience of families and friends who came along to support them. Following this the Agency decided to replicate the project in nine National Schools in counties Cavan, Monaghan and Donegal.

The nine National Schools that took part in the Ulster-Scots drama project during 2012 were:
County Cavan - Kilmore National School,

Cavan No 1 National School and Darley National School

County Donegal - Raphoe Central National School, Convoys Joint National School and Roberston National School

County Monaghan - Drumnacrutin National School, Model National School and Drumcorrin National School

All those involved expressed how enjoyable the drama project had been. The children worked hard at workshops of drama, dance and language on this play and as a result their knowledge and understanding of the Ulster-Scots language and culture has increased significantly.

Some comments included:

"Working on this play has been awesome" - pupil (age 9) from Drumnacrutin National School.
"The children benefited from all aspects of the programme and most importantly how to express themselves and use language effectively" - teacher from the Model National School, County Monaghan.
"This script was very suitable for learning the language and it was brilliant to integrate it with the history curriculum" – principal, Kilmore National School, County Cavan.

NEWS & EVENTS

Burns Night concerts in Belfast and Derry/Londonderry

The Ulster Orchestra and the Ulster-Scots Agency are working in partnership on two Burns Night concerts that will bring together musicians from the Ulster-Scots and Classical traditions. The concerts will take place on Friday January 25 at the Ulster Hall, Belfast and on Saturday January 26 in the Millennium Forum, Derry/Londonderry. To book tickets for Friday January 25 in Belfast, visit www.ulsterorchestra.com or telephone the Box Office on (028) 9023 9955 and for Saturday January 26 in Derry/Londonderry, visit www.millenniumforum.co.uk or telephone the Box Office on (028) 7126 4455.

Digging deep



Pictured at the launch of *Ulster Unearthed* are Jeremy Hibbard, Televisionary:NI's creative director; Michael Wilson, UTV's managing director; Richard Williams, NI Screen chief executive and show presenter Rita Fitzgerald

A new archaeology and heritage series which will reveal stories of Northern Ireland's past and its Ulster-Scots links has been launched on UTV.

Called *Ulster Unearthed*, the series - airing at 8pm on Monday nights - uses laser technology and state-of-the-art computer imaging as a team of experts explores a variety of local sites and digs across Ulster. The *Ulster Unearthed* series is presented by UTV's Rita Fitzgerald and is produced by Televisionary:NI, a local independent production company. The series received funding from the Northern Ireland Screen Ulster-Scots Broadcast Fund (USBF), which was set up to ensure that the heritage, culture and language of Ulster-Scots is expressed through moving image. The USBF also aims to foster the Ulster-Scots independent production sector in Northern Ireland and to fund high quality Ulster-Scots cultural TV programmes for a Northern Ireland audience. Of the four 30-minute programmes to come, *Ulster Unearthed* takes a closer look at Carrickfergus Castle, which has played a military role for almost 1,000 years, while and in Ballycarry, near Larne, it learns more about a site - close to Ireland's first Presbyterian church - that a property developer has his eye on. In Bangor, the team searches for an Ulster-Scots settlement but finds relics from a much earlier period. Dunluce is the setting for the final programme in the series, where we learn more about a medieval hall dating back to the 1550s and the Castle's resident ghost!

Robert Burns: The

As Burns' Night approaches, we explore the strong links between

Robert Burns was born on January 25 1759 into a poor farming family in Alloway, near Ayr. Though he had to work in the fields as a boy, in his spare time he pursued his love of reading.

In a bookshop he came upon the works of the Scots poet Robert Fergusson. He had written some poems himself, but Fergusson's work opened his eyes to the way in which the Scots tongue could be used. Burns wrote in both English and Scots, but much of his best known poetry is Scots.

After his father died in 1784, Burns' family moved to another farm at Mossgiel, near Mauchline. Here he had numerous affairs and fell in love with Jean Armour. Her father however, refused to allow the match. By mid-1786, Robert's complicated love life was making life very awkward in Mauchline and he was set to leave Scotland for a job in Jamaica, when his first book of poems was published. The slim volume was a great success and sold out within a month. Instead of going to Jamaica, Robert went to Edinburgh, where he became popular with the fashionable set.

Two years later, Burns married Jean Armour and bought a new farm. Times were hard and though Robert's poetry was popular, it made him little money. The farm was unsuccessful, but one of Burns' friends recommended him for a job as an excise man in Dumfries, which provided a steady income. All the time, Robert was prolific in his output of songs and poems. Early in 1796, his health began to fail and he died on July 21 1796 at the age of just 37, from a rheumatic heart condition. Now, over 200 years later, he is regarded by many as the greatest Scot of all.

The Ulster Tradition

Centuries of interaction between Ulster and Scotland made Ulster fertile ground for the works of Burns not only in terms of the language that he used, but also the radical tone of his work.

Travelling around Ulster in 1796 - 1797, just after Burns' death, the French observer, de Latocnaye, commented that "Belfast has almost entirely the look of a Scotch town, and the character of the inhabitants has considerable resemblance to that of the people of Glasgow." The same man observed about County Antrim that "the way of speaking, and even of dressing, is much more Scotch than Irish."

Burns holds a central position in the Ulster-Scots literary tradition and had a profound influence on the late 18th and early 19th century group of Ulster-Scots poets known as the "rhyming weavers", who often wrote in the same style as Burns, known as the habbie stanza. Indeed, some, including Samuel Thompson, the Bard of Carngranny, were in active correspondence with Burns during his lifetime.

When the first edition of Burns' poetry, known



**"I mourned with
thousands, but as one
More deeply grieved,
for he was gone
Whose light I hailed
when it first shone,
And showed my youth
How verse may build a
princely throne
On humble truth."**

- William Wordsworth
(at the grave of Burns)

as the Kilmarnock edition, was published in July 1786, extracts were printed in the Belfast Newsletter – the first paper in Ireland and possibly the British Isles to do so. Thereafter, his poetry frequently appeared in the paper, often before it appeared in a collected edition of his work.

Such was the popularity of his work in Ulster that the first edition of his poetry printed outside Scotland was printed in Belfast. The Edinburgh edition appeared in 1787 and was reprinted and republished by James Magee, of Bridge Street, Belfast, in the same year. When Burns died in 1796, warm tribute was paid to him in obituaries in both the Belfast Newsletter and the Northern Star.

His influence in Ulster was such that it was often said that in many Ulster homes there were but two books, the Bible and Burns. Ulster people read his poetry and understood it. An interesting observation is that even in well-thumbed old copies, the glossary at the back is generally untouched, since the Scots tongue in which he wrote needed no explanation to Ulster folk.

In 1859, the centenary of Burns' birth was widely celebrated in Ulster. An oil painting of the poet was commissioned in Belfast and presented to his grand-daughter, Eliza Everitt, who was herself living in the York Street area of the city. The first Belfast Burns Club was formed in 1872 and survives to this day as the Belfast Burns Association.

Andrew Gibson was a native of Ayrshire who settled in Belfast. He was a governor of the Linen Hall Library and one of the first Presidents of the Belfast Scottish Association, which met in York Street. A Burns enthusiast, he collected over 2,000 volumes of Burns and Burnsiana. This collection was purchased by public subscription in 1901 and placed in the Linen Hall Library. It is one of the largest and best Burns collections in the world. Around the same time, a collection of portraits and books belonging to Eliza Everitt were entrusted to the library by her daughter.



Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days o' auld lang syne.

Chorus

And for auld lang syne, my jo,
For auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne,

2. And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp!
And surely I'll be mine!
And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

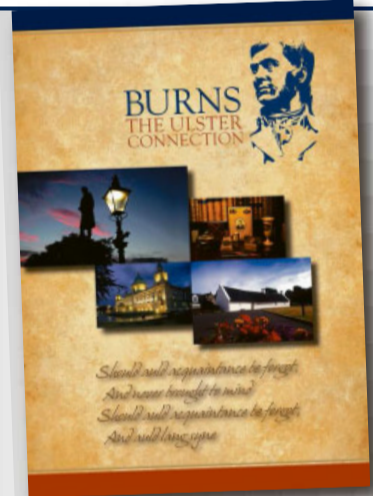
3. We twa hae run about the braes
And pu'd the gowans fine;
But we've wander'd mony a weary foot
Sin auld lang syne.

4. We twa hae paidl'd i' the burn,
Frae momin' sun till dine;
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
Sin auld lang syne.

5. And there's a hand, my trusty fiere!
And gie's a hand o' thine!
And we'll tak a right guid willy waught,
For auld lang syne.

Glossary

auld = old
auld lang syne = Former days and friends
jo = dear
stowp = tankard
gowans = daisies
twa = two
braes = hills
burn = river
braid = broad
guid willie waught = friendly draught



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Ulster Connection

Robert Burns, the people of Ulster and their traditions...



Robert Burns Birthday Celebrations 2013 in Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland

Rantin, Rovin, Robin

- The Dumfries and Galloway Council Museums Service invites you to explore Dumfries in the footsteps of Rantin, Rovin, Robin (how Burns described himself in a poem written for his 28th birthday). The Museums Service cares for iconic artefacts and buildings associated with Robert Burns and his life in Dumfries. Three museum venues are extending their opening times specially for the Big Burns Supper weekend with special events based at each location.
- For kids and their grown-ups there is the Wee Beasties museum trail on Saturday 26 (10am-5pm) and Sunday January 27 (11am – 4pm). Start at any of the three museum venues and pick up a Wee Beasties trail pack. Visit all three of the venues collecting clues to find out more about the life of Robert Burns. Prizes for those who complete the trail and a special prize for the best dressed Wee Beastie! Suitable for “kids” of all ages (those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult).

Robert Burns House Burns Street, Dumfries DG1 2PS Tel: 01387 255297

It was in this simple sandstone house in a quiet Dumfries street that Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet, spent the last years of his life. He died here in 1796 at the age of just thirty seven. The house gives us a picture of how the poet and his family lived in the late eighteenth century, and is now a place of pilgrimage for Burns enthusiasts from around the world. (Admission free).

Special events at Burns House

- Extended opening hours: Saturday January 26 10am-5pm and Sunday January 27 11am-4pm
- There will be free escorted tours to St Michael's Churchyard and the interior of Burns Mausoleum. Starting from Robert Burns House these are available approximately once an hour.
- Part of the Wee Beasties kids' trail.

Robert Burns Centre Mill Road, Dumfries DG2 7BE Tel: 01387 264808

Situated in the town's 18th century watermill on the

west bank of the River Nith, the Robert Burns Centre tells the story of Robert Burns' last years spent in the bustling streets and lively atmosphere of Dumfries in the late eighteenth century. The exhibition is illuminated by many original manuscripts and belongings of the poet. There is a fascinating scale model of Dumfries in the 1790s and a haunting audio-visual presentation. (Admission free).

Special events at the Robert Burns Centre

- Extended opening hours: Saturday January 26 10am-5pm and Sunday January 27 11am-4pm
- Free audiovisual presentation starting at 11.30, 12.30, 1.30, 2.30 and 3.30pm
- Part of the Wee Beasties kids' trail.

Dumfries Museum The Observatory, Rotchell Road, Dumfries DG2 7SW Tel: 01387 253374

A treasure house of history in Dumfries and Galloway telling the story of the land and people of the region. Look out for fossil footprints left by prehistoric animals, the wildlife of the Solway, tools and weapons of our earliest people, stone carvings by Scotland's first Christians and the everyday things of the Victorian farm, workshop and home. (Admission free).

Special events at Dumfries Museum

- Extended opening hours: Saturday January 26 10am-5pm and Sunday January 27 11am-4pm
- Weather permitting the Camera Obscura will also be open Saturday and Sunday 11am – 2pm allowing visitors a unique view of the Dumfries townscape and surrounding countryside (Charges apply - adults £2.50, concession £1.25).
- Part of the Wee Beasties kids' trail.

Burns on the Beat – Classes for Schools

- Supported by Live Literature Scotland and the Burns Festival Trust, Dumfries Museum is offering school classes the opportunity to take part in music and Scots language sessions delivered by Dr Fred Freeman. Teachers interested in booking these sessions should contact Dumfries Museum dumfries.museum@dumgal.gov.uk, telephone 01387 253374.

Burns Celebrations 2013

This year as we celebrate Burns' 254th Birthday, Burns Night celebrations, concerts and suppers will be held all over the world to celebrate his life and works.

A number of Burns events will also be hosted by Ulster-Scots community and voluntary groups across Ulster.

Full details of these Burns events taking place over the coming weeks are available at www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events.

- Last night Burns celebrations were held in counties Down and Londonderry. Schomberg Folk Orchestra held a Burns Night Celebration in Kilkeel with a display of Scottish Country dancing by Kirknarra School of Dance and music from Schomberg Fife and Drum, whilst Kilrea and District Ulster-Scots Society hosted a Burns Night Supper and Concert featuring the 'Homelanders' from Scotland and a display of Scottish Country dancing. A selection of Burns poetry and songs also featured in both events.

Some Burns events taking place this weekend and over the coming weeks include:

- Burns Night Celebration hosted by Cranny Cultural & Community Group**
Date: Saturday January 19 2013 (8pm).
Venue: Desertmartin Parish Church Hall, Dromore Road, Desertmartin, County Londonderry
Further information: This year's event will feature the Scotland's finest duo The Homelanders. Supporting artistes will include Cranny Pipe Band, Highland and Country Dancers and the Address to a Haggis will be performed by Rev. Alan Knox. This event will be admittance by ticket only. Tickets £10 each and are available by contacting Cranny Cultural & Community Group Secretary, Gareth Campbell on 07740 175 745 or crannyulsterscots@hotmail.co.uk
- Burns Supper hosted by Cairncastle Ulster-Scots**
Date: Saturday January 19 2013 (8pm – 1am)
Venue: Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club, 2 Greenland Drive, Larne, County Antrim
Further information: Entertainment will be supplied by The Grousebeaters, Keep 'Er Lit and the piper for the evening will be Ross Hume. Addressing the Haggis will be Jimmy McKeegan and a buffet supper will be served. This event will be admittance by ticket only. Tickets £10 each and are available by contacting Larne Tourist Information Centre on (028) 2826 0088.
- Burns Night Social hosted by Garryduff Flute Band**
Date: Saturday January 26 2013 (8pm -10.30pm)
Venue: Garryduff Independent Church Hall, 98 Garryduff Road, Ballymoney, County Antrim
Further information: Ian Kennedy - garryduff_fb_1881@hotmail.co.uk
- Burns Supper hosted by Naggyburn Ulster-Scots & Schomberg Orange Cultural Society**
Date: Saturday January 26 2013
Venue: No 1 Club, 33C Point Street, Larne, County Antrim
Further information: Contact Sandra Wright - sandrawright10@btinternet.com
- Rabbie Burns Concert hosted by Ardstraw & Baronscourt Youth Council**
Date: Friday February 1 2013 (7.30pm -10.30pm)
Venue: Parish Hall, 55 Dublin Street, Newtownstewart, County Tyrone
Further information: Irene Spratt - sprattidraulsterscots@yahoo.co.uk

Official launch of the Ulster-Scots schools' flagship programme

By Jim Millar

More than 100 teachers from nine counties came together at the Belfast Titanic centre in November for 'Enhancing the Curriculum – Ulster-Scots Culture in Primary Schools', the first Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland schools conference where Ulster-Scots in the curriculum was the focus for discussion.

The Agency's new flagship schools programme will encourage a systematic approach to learning about Ulster-Scots in primary schools, where supply has already outstripped demand and which promises to be another 'blue chip' educational initiative from the Agency. The conference was structured around presentations that were made by senior teachers, school principals, drama coordinators and ICT specialists and were ably supported by other inter-agency professionals with experience ranging from working in the Education and Training Inspectorate to managing the publication of school resource material. All of this enriched the practical discussions about what the Agency could do to support the development of Ulster-Scots curriculum activity in the primary school classrooms.

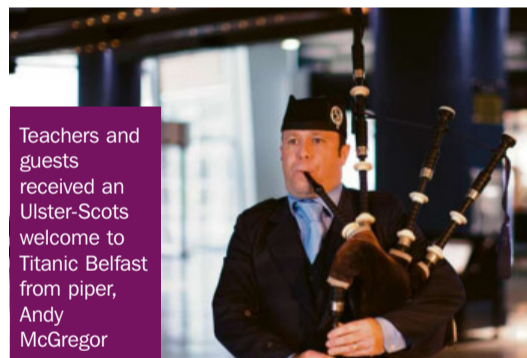
A special showcase of work already completed in their school was performed by pupils from Balmore PS, which provided particularly interesting insights into how language and literature can be introduced to the school day using widely varying contexts and learning themes. The conference was a key activity for the Agency, both as the first of the two practical school conferences scheduled in 2012 and 2013 and as an introduction of the teachers touchstone group which the Agency hopes will support the development of its new and growing network of professional teachers who are engaged in supporting the strategic direction of the Agency's school work.

The conference successfully looked at the great work already being done in schools, listened to the diversity of experience that participants brought and explored new options for enhancing the curriculum through the theme of Ulster-Scots.

Of particular interest was the recently launched ICT programme that is being managed by the Agency in conjunction with the Nerve Centre in Londonderry. John Peto, director of education at the centre, gave an inspiring outline of the process by which Ulster-Scots culture can meet the needs of the curriculum through the use of modern technology. This project has already proved to be very



Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, Caral Ní Chuilín with Agency board member, Hilary Singleton; chair, Tom Scott and director of education and language, Jim Millar at the official launch in Titanic Belfast



Teachers and guests received an Ulster-Scots welcome to Titanic Belfast from piper, Andy McGregor



Some of the pupils from Balmore Primary School, Ballymoney who later provided a showcase of Ulster-Scots drama, poetry and songs that they learned at their school

popular with schools and John will be doing all he can to ensure that the project which is already oversubscribed, will be available to as many schools in the forthcoming school terms in 2013.

As John himself remarked at the end of the conference: "Having so many teachers sign up for the project is a great encouragement to both the Agency and the Nerve Centre."

Equally encouraging was the attendance at conference of the Stormont Culture Minister Caral Ní Chuilín, who fully endorsed the opening remarks by Agency chief executive Ian Crozier concerning the value of learning about Ulster-Scots in schools.

The Minister endorsed the work being undertaken by teachers in partnership with the Agency, outlining its importance and benefits to all. And she gave a promise of her department's unqualified support for the work that would need to be done to further the inclusion of Ulster-Scots in schools and classrooms.

Mervyn Storey, chairman of the Assembly Education Committee at Stormont, endorsed the Minister's remarks and encouraged teachers to support the Agency's new flagship scheme as well as

the other programmes currently under way and planned for 2013.

Feedback from the conference both on the day and from later comments has been positive. Participants greatly enjoyed the chance to meet like-minded people from so many parts of the country, the opportunity to network and to learn from one another as well as the chance to explore new ideas.

The Agency would like to thank those who gave such dynamic and interesting presentations that invoked useful discussion.

They included Jim Millar (director of education and language at the Ulster-Scots Agency), Ian Crozier (Agency chief executive), Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure minister Caral Ní Chuilín, George Mawhinney (principal of Castle Gardens PS), John Peto (director of education Nerve Centre), Jonathan Burgess (Blue Eagle Productions), Stephanie Kenny Quinn (Class Act Drama), Iris Kirkland (principal of Castleblayney Central National School), Jackie Morrison (principal of Balmore PS, who was joined was pupils and staff), Trevor Russell (vice-principal of Ballydown PS), Claude Costecalde (Book Link), Judith Harper (principal of Derryboy PS) and

Stormont Education Committee chair Mervyn Storey.

Importantly, the Agency was delighted at the response from those teachers who took the opportunity to attend the conference and who ultimately made such a valuable contribution to the success of the day, contributing freely to discussions both formally and also informally over lunch.

It also received a number of calls of support from others who, while unable to attend due to other commitments, were delighted at the content and outcomes from what was a memorable and successful conference.

The location was as inspiring as the content of the conference itself, and thanks go to all at Titanic Belfast for their support before and during the event.

If you would like further information on the Agency's schools' flagship programme, the content of the conference presentations or information about the work being supported by the Agency in schools, contact a member of the Agency's Education team on (028) 9023 1113 or email jim.millar@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk.

The Last Covenanting Army

The Ulster-Scots story of the Ulster Volunteer Force

In September 1912, nearly half a million Ulster men and women signed the Solemn League and Covenant, pledging to resist the imposition of Home Rule by "all means which may be found necessary." While Liberal politicians in London and Nationalists in Dublin scoffed at Ulster Day and doubted Ulster's resolve, the Unionists themselves were in earnest. Mindful of the words of the 17th Century philosopher Thomas Hobbes, that "Covenants without swords are but words", they set about raising a force, the Ulster Volunteers, to make good on their Covenant. One hundred years ago this month, the UVF was born. It was the last Covenanting army.

By adopting the Solemn League and Covenant to resist Home Rule, Ulster loyalists had embraced a potent element of their Ulster-Scots heritage. The text of the Covenant was based on the Scottish National Covenant of 1638; and its title was taken from the Solemn League and Covenant signed between Scots Covenanters and English Puritans in 1642. However, the Covenant was not the only element of Ulster's response that was inspired by their Scots forebears.

Faced with attempts by King Charles I to subjugate Presbyterianism and bring it into line with the Church of England, with himself at its head, Scots Presbyterians banded together in 1638 to sign the Scottish National Covenant. The Scots raised an army of 20,000 Covenanters who defeated the forces of the King in the Bishops Wars in 1639 and 1640; and caused a crisis in the Stuart monarchy which helped to precipitate the English Civil War. Following the 1641 Rebellion, an army of Covenanters under General Munro was sent to Ulster to protect the Scottish settlers. It was the Presbyterian army chaplains of Munro's army who established the first Presbytery at Carrickfergus in 1642 and rode out to establish many of the Presbyterian congregations around Belfast Lough.

After the alliance with Cromwell, a Covenanter army under the command of Alexander Leslie marched south into England and played a decisive role in the defeat of Charles I at the Battle of Marston Moor. While they were occupied in England however, a force of Irish troops under the Earl of Antrim landed on the west coast of Scotland and joined forces with Royalist

troops under the Marquess of Montrose to inflict severe defeats on Covenanters throughout the west of Scotland, until they were defeated by Leslie in 1645. When the Ulster Volunteers began drilling, equipping and in due course arming during 1913-4, they were embarked on a course which saw them following in the footsteps of the Covenanters. Like the Covenanting armies of the 17th Century, every member of the Ulster Volunteer Force had signed the Ulster Covenant. They had done so in a spirit of reverence, with every signing of the Covenant on Ulster Day being preceded by a religious service. Ministers across Ulster



proclaimed the righteousness of the Covenant at meetings and services in the run-up to Ulster Day and on the day itself, drawing parallels with the Old Testament Covenant between God and the children of Israel, as well as the more recent Scottish Covenants.

On Ulster Day itself, observers, like the correspondent for the Daily Telegraph, noted an atmosphere charged with religious devotion: "The more strictly political objectives of the Covenant derive all their strength and stability from this religious character." The Belfast Newsletter declared

that Ulster Day was, "no occasion for demonstration, but for dedication to a high purpose."

In common with their Covenanting forebears, the role of clergy went far beyond preaching. Many Ulster ministers followed in the example of men like Rev. Richard Cameron, the Lion of the Covenanters, when they became leaders in the Ulster Volunteer Force.

From the outset in 1913, ministers were to the fore, especially in rural areas. In County Armagh, the original organisers of the local UVF Regiment included Rev. McEndoo and Rev. Whan of Tandragee; and Rev. Mayes of Crossmaglen. In County Fermanagh, the Adjutant of the Fermanagh UVF Regiment was Rev. Stack of Aghadrumsee, Clones. Clergymen played a particularly strong role in County Tyrone, where several ministers served as company commanders. In the 1st (North Tyrone) Battalion, C Company, (Baronscourt) was commanded by Rev. FM Hamilton; while D Company, (Barravay) was led by Rev. W Kelly. In the 3rd (South Tyrone) Battalion, E Company (Aughnacloy) was commanded by Rev. G French; while Rev. C King Irwin took command of H Company (Brantry and Dyan). In 1914, the renowned Ulster-Scots poet, Rev. WF Marshall, was actively involved in the distribution of arms and ammunition to local UVF formations.

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Fully aware of the Liberal government's willingness to override the Constitution, Ulstermen were drilling and acquiring military skills even before the signing of the Ulster Covenant. County Tyrone Orangemen led the way and soon Orange leaders all over Ulster were following their example. Such was the measure of their commitment that after a hard day's toil in the fields or factories, men walked for miles to attend parades and drills. Social distinctions were forgotten. Gentry cheerfully obeyed orders from their tenants and company directors from their employees. While some derided these military preparations, a senior British officer noted that there reigned in Ulster "a stern and disciplined atmosphere and a serious spirit of unity and organisation".

All over Ulster men were drilling yet there was no overall command or structure. In January 1913, the Ulster Unionist Council decided that the volunteers should be united into a single body to be known as the Ulster Volunteer Force. Recruitment would be limited to 100,000 men who had signed the Covenant. In urging Unionists to enrol, Carson recognised the importance of organisation and unity: "Victory comes to those who are organised and united. Those who are unorganised cannot help and may hinder our efforts."

An organisation similar to that of the recently organised Territorial Army was created. An efficient headquarters staff was set up which benefited enormously from the expertise of Captain Wilfrid Spender, the youngest staff officer in the British Army who threw up a promising career to identify himself more closely with Ulster's cause. On the recommendation of Lord Roberts of Kandahar, the most distinguished soldier alive, Lieut. General Sir George Richardson, himself a distinguished soldier, was appointed to command the Volunteers. An impressive array of specialist units which would have been the envy of many a contemporary professional army was established: the Special Services Sections; the Medical Corps; the Nursing Corps; and the Signalling and Despatch Riders Corps.

It was not only the men of Ulster who responded magnificently to the call. Women came forward not only as nurses but as signallers, motor-cycle despatch riders and ambulance drivers. At UVF Headquarters a small group was engaged in intelligence work which included deciphering intercepted police messages.

The mobilisation of an entire community made it evident for all to see that Ulstermen had not been bluffing when they had pledged themselves to "using all means which may be found necessary" to defeat the imposition of Dublin rule.* Like their 17th Century forefathers they would not allow control of their lives and liberties to be transferred into the hands of their hereditary enemies by a corrupt Liberal government. Ulster would fight and Ulster would be right.

Just as in the political sphere, many Ulster-Scots played prominent roles in the organisation and activities of the Ulster Volunteer Force. They came from all walks of life; from landed

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Plantation families to the Belfast industrial and mercantile elite; from managers and foremen to the men and women on the shopfloor. The training of 100,000 men required access to large areas of land; and the landed gentry were quick to make this available. Baronscourt was used as a venue to train the UVF, courtesy of the Duke of Abercorn. Killyleagh Castle, also in the hands of the descendants of Sir James Hamilton since the early 1600s, was also used. In County Fermanagh, members of leading Plantation era families became leading members of the UVF. The commander of the Fermanagh Regiment was Major the Viscount Crichton, eldest son of the Earl of Erne, whose seat is Crom Castle, Newtownbutler. The 1st (North Fermanagh) Battalion, was commanded by Major C.C. D'Arcy Irvine, of Castle Irvine, Irvinestown. Both men's families came over from Scotland during the Plantation of Ulster.

Many prominent Belfast businessmen, with strong Ulster-Scots heritage, also played leading roles within the UVF. In North Belfast, linen barons William Ewart and George Andrews commanded the 1st and 2nd Battalions respectively (Ewart used his business address in Bedford Street, headquarters of William Ewart and Sons, the biggest linen firm in the world). The 6th Battalion was commanded by BWD Montgomery, the man who had suggested the Ulster Covenant in the first place.

In the East of the city, the 3rd Battalion was commanded by CW Henderson, of Norwood Tower, Strandtown, of the family who owned the Belfast. Both Henderson and Ewart belonged to St. Mark's Dundela. Incredibly, the secretary to the Select Vestry at St Marks, HV Coates, was also commander of the 6th (East Belfast) Battalion. Both partners of the leading Belfast shipbuilding firm of Workman and Clark were close supporters of the UVF. George S. Clark was chairman of the Ulster Unionist Council committee which raised the money to arm the Volunteers. Frank Workman's only son, Edward, was a member of the East Belfast 6th Battalion. Educated at Charterhouse and Cambridge, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the 6th Royal Irish Rifles and killed in action in January 1916. Throughout Ulster, the UVF benefited from the experience of many commanders who were experienced soldiers. A division of three regiments in County Antrim was commanded by General Sir William Adair. The 1st Battalion of the North Antrim Regiment was commanded by Brigadier General George Young DSO; while the 2nd Battalion was commanded by Colonel Lyle DSO. Young lived at Galgorm Castle and was a member of the family which owned Braidwater Mill, the largest employer in Ballymena.



TOP: Lord Carson reviewing the Volunteers
BOTTOM: The YCV on parade

Army

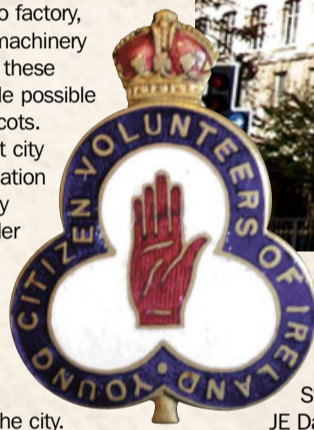


The Young Citizen Volunteers

The formation of the YCV, which took place on 10th September 1912, was not officially linked to the anti-Home Rule campaign. Instead, it was an expression of pride in the achievements and prospects of Belfast, in 1912 the envy of the industrialised world. In 1899, the Belfast Newsletter had observed, "We in Belfast are proud of our city and its many activities. We are in the very front of the race of civic development and industrial progress and we have a laudable ambition to keep there and make our mark as it were." At the beginning of the 20th Century Belfast was part of a British industrial complex which stretched from Lancashire to Lanarkshire. By 1914 Belfast could boast "the greatest shipyard, rope works, tobacco factory, linen mill, dry dock and tea machinery works in the world." Many of these achievements had been made possible by the genius of the Ulster-Scots. Belfast was the eighth largest city in the UK. In 1801, its population had been just 19,000; but by 1901 it had risen to just under 350,000; and was reckoned to be the fastest growing city in the country. Above all others, the new City Hall, completed in 1906, demonstrated the affluence, confidence and ambition of the city.

The formation of the YCV was the brainchild of Fred T. Geddes, a prominent member of the Belfast Citizens Association. In 1912 he was one of two joint-secretaries of the Belfast Citizens Association for the Clifton and Duncairn wards in North Belfast. He was also a member of the Central Presbyterian Association, an organisation based in Church House in Fisherwick Place which provided a mix of recreational, sporting, social and religious activities for young people. Geddes set out his proposal for a Young Citizens Volunteer Corps in letters in the Northern Whig and Belfast Newsletter on 6th May 1912. The proposal elicited a supportive letter in the Belfast Newsletter and Northern Whig the following day from Rev. WS Kerr, Rector of St. Paul's in York Street, who would go on to become the first Bishop of Down and Dromore. It was also warmly endorsed by Rev. TW Davidson, Minister of Lynn Memorial Methodist Church on the Oldpark Road. Rev. Kerr wrote, "There is room for the instruction to the young men of the city in the principles of civic administration, in information as to the industries and progress of the city, the history of its representative citizens and the duties of citizenship etc."

Such was the positive response to Geddes' suggestion that the Lord Mayor, RJ McMordie, convened a meeting in his parlour in the City Hall on 6th June 1912 to discuss the idea. Numerous prominent businessmen from the city attended; a glance at their surnames and knowledge of later history revealing several prominent Ulster-Scots at the gathering. Those present included Major Fred Crawford; Major



Fred Cunningham; Lt. Col. WEC McCammond JP; W. Joseph Stokes; GW Ferguson JP; EJ Elliott; JE Dawson; EM Reid and JD Williamson JP.

The YCV was formally launched by the Lord Mayor at City Hall on 10th September; and the following day, the Northern Whig reported, "The Young Citizen Volunteer movement had a splendid send off last night...In most countries all citizens are trained in the use of arms and in a moment of danger they are able to respond to the call of duty. However anxious our people may be to fight for the flag, they are not trained to do so. This is a source of constant peril to the nation. Every health man should be able to take his part in defending his country. If the Young Citizen Volunteer movement succeeds – and it deserves to succeed – the national gain will be considerable."

A Volunteer Executive was established to oversee the organisation. Its membership list reads like a Who's Who? of Belfast society, again including many prominent Ulster-Scots, including Thomas Sinclair; BWD Montgomery; Fred Crawford; George Clark (Workman & Clark, Shipbuilders); J Milne Barbour (William Barbour Linen Thread Company, Hilden); and James Mackie (James Mackie and Sons Iron Foundry, Belfast). Frank Workman, Clark's partner in the shipyard, was Honorary Treasurer of the YCV and financed the organisation out of his own pocket.

The close association with the city continued throughout the YCV's existence. In October 1912, Belfast Corporation sanctioned the use of St. George's Market in May Street as a drill hall for the Belfast Battalion on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The Municipal Technical Institute (The Tech) in College Square

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was also used as a venue for educational lectures on citizenship and the history of Belfast.

The YCV consisted of eight companies and was commanded by Lt. Col. Chichester, a descendent of Sir Arthur Chichester, the founder of Belfast. His second in command was Major Kerr-Smylie, chairman of the Northern Whig and Unionist MP for North Antrim; who was in turn supported by Captain Harry Mulholland, a member of the Mulholland family who owned the York Street Flax Spinning Company, the largest spinning mill in the world.

Although established as a separate organisation, the YCV cooperated closely with the Ulster Volunteer Force from the outset, participating in a review of the Belfast UVF at Balmoral in September 1913. In March 1914, on a proposal from their commanding officer, the YCV voted en masse to become part of the UVF.



Ulster-Scots set to have major presence at UK City of Culture

This is a massive year for Northern Ireland, with Londonderry being the first ever UK City of Culture.

There has been much anticipation in the build up towards the start of this year and the Ulster-Scots Agency has been busy working to ensure that a strong thread of Ulster-Scots identity will be visible in the city during its big year.

Agency chief executive Ian Crozier said: "Don't be fooled by the name. Londonderry has a rich Ulster-Scots heritage in addition to its link to the city of London.

"Many of the defenders at the time of the siege were Ulster-Scots, and it is believed that First Derry Presbyterian Church, where the Agency recently funded the development of the Bluecoat School Heritage Centre, was a personal gift of Queen Mary to the Scots Presbyterians of the city for holding out against the forces of her uncle, King James II. The city was a key port for Ulster-Scots emigration to America in the 17th and 18th

Centuries and it gave rise to the development of numerous settlements in New England and elsewhere bearing the names of Derry and Londonderry.

"Plans are already underway to commemorate this key element of the city's history in 2013." Agency officials are in regular contact with City of Culture officials and a wide range of opinion formers, Ulster-Scots activists and key community interests so that a rich variety of Ulster-Scots events and activities take place from January right through to December. Major events will be a key element of the approach, which will kick off with a major Burns Night concert on Saturday January 26 by the Ulster Orchestra in the Millennium Forum. It will also include expansion of the landmark Maiden City Festival, which the Ulster-Scots Agency has been associated with for some time, as well as exciting new ideas, including a Siege Pageant and an Ulster-Scots Tattoo.

Discussions are also taking place with the Apprentice Boys of Derry and Orange Order locally, to explore ways that the Agency can support the delivery of Ulster-Scots elements



of their programmes during the UK City of Culture year.

The Ulster-Scots Agency is also keen to ensure that 2013 leaves behind a strong legacy for Ulster-Scots in the City.

Ian Crozier adds: "We want to make sure that people can see a benefit from the City of Culture long after 2013.

"Derry City Council has recently taken delivery of a major piece of research on the Ulster-Scots heritage of the city, which was funded by DCAL through the Ministerial Advisory Group on the Ulster-Scots Academy.

"The Agency will be working closely with the Council and with DSD's local office in Londonderry to ensure that the city's rich Ulster-Scots heritage is reflected in a tangible way in the city.

"As well as reflecting the city's Ulster-Scots past, we will be working to develop a rich Ulster-Scots future.

"This will include working with local schools, with brilliant flute bands and with the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association to ensure that future generations in Londonderry can be immersed in their Ulster-Scots identity."

Successful partnership for Carrickfergus Borough Council and the Ulster-Scots Agency

By **Gillian Pearson, marketing manager, Ulster-Scots Agency**

On the evening of Wednesday November 28 2012, a series of events began at the Andrew Jackson Cottage, Boneybefore, which is located just outside Carrickfergus. 'Christmas Crack at the Cottage - A Christmas Celebration, Ulster-Scots style' ran for three evenings until Friday November 30 and continued on Saturday December 1.

Entertainment at each of the events included storytelling from the Kragfergus Living History Group who were in costume dress to re-enact two stories: firstly the Jacksons getting ready to leave for this new world (telling the story of what life was like in Carrickfergus, what made them decide to leave and what their hopes and dreams were for the future) and then the story of two Ulster Scots just back from America documenting what life was like in this new world.

After the storytelling The Woodworms performed a set of Bluegrass and American old timey music with a selection of Ulster Scots / Scotch Irish and seasonal music. Visitors enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies and experienced the true Ulster-Scots



atmosphere round the fire in the traditional setting of the Andrew Jackson Cottage. Mayor of Carrickfergus Borough, Alderman Billy Ashe said: "We are very grateful to the Ulster-Scots Agency for their fantastic support in running these events. This is the first time we have offered 'Christmas Crack at the Cottage' and we have received tremendous feedback from all those who have attended.

"Working in partnership with the Ulster-Scots Agency has allowed us to showcase the cottage to its Ulster-Scots best and offering a very unique atmosphere to all who cross the threshold".

Agency chief executive, Ian Crozier added: "The Agency is delighted that this series of events held at the Andrew Jackson Cottage were such a huge success and that all those who came along - either to one of the evening events, or the Saturday afternoon event thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

"The Agency is also pleased to have worked in partnership with Carrickfergus Borough Council on these events. We look forward to developing opportunities that will showcase the cottage as an important piece of Ulster-Scots heritage in the future and we would encourage anyone who has not already visited this tourist attraction to do so as soon as possible".

Ulster-Scots and The War of 1812

By **Dr John McCavitt**, FRHistS, Member of the Ministerial Advisory Group on the Ulster-Scots Academy.

Having completed books on Sir Arthur Chichester, Lord Deputy of Ireland, 1605-16 and The Flight of the Earls, my research interests moved on in 2007 to the career of Major General Robert Ross from my home village of Rostrevor in County Down.

During The War of 1812, or the 'Second War of Independence' as many Americans at the time called it, which began when the Americans invaded Canada, General Ross captured Washington, burning the White House in the process. His death some three weeks later was a 'key' event influencing Francis Scott Key when he wrote the lyrics of The Star Spangled Banner, later to become the US National Anthem. Ross is buried in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

After falling into disrepair, Ross' monument in Rostrevor, on the site of his proposed retirement dwelling, was restored and opened to the public in 2009. I am now co-authoring a book on his life with Chris George from Baltimore.

Ross's expedition to the USA is attracting international attention with both the celebrated BBC broadcaster, Peter Snow and the Washington Post journalist, Steve Vogel, writing books on the subject. Both have visited the Ross monument in Rostrevor.

Bicentennial commemorations of the War of 1812 begin this year, with events occurring in the USA and Canada. There are plans to feature a portrait of General Ross at a major War of 1812 exhibition opening in June 2012 at the National Portrait Gallery, the Smithsonian, in Washington.

In general, Irishmen were heavily represented in all British army regiments defending Canada but there were a number of identifiably 'Irish' regiments serving in the British army there. Most famously, the 89th regiment distinguished itself at the Battle of Chryslers Farm and later fought at the Battle of Lundy's Lane (also known as the Battle of Niagara). Meanwhile the 100th regiment was active throughout the war, including at the Battle of Sackett's Harbour and again at the Battle of Chippawa. They were described as having been 'principally raised in the north of Ireland, and are nearly all Protestants; they are robust, active, and good looking'. Besides Ross, himself an Ulster-Scot, some 40 per cent of his expeditionary force came from Ireland, many from Ulster.

On the American side, as Henry Bisharat, formerly of the US Consulate in Belfast, has remarked, these events reveal how special and close the ties were between Ulster and North America and that before President Obama, Ulster was the only region of the world outside the US to have 'First Fathers', and not just one, but three – and two of these fought against the forces of General Ross - James Buchanan and Andrew Jackson. With his victory at the Battle of New Orleans, Jackson reunified a disUnited States that was riven almost to the point of civil war. His achievement was a key factor leading him to become the first Scots Irish president.



The Ross Monument outside Rosstrevor, Co. Down. During restoration (left) and (above) after work was completed.

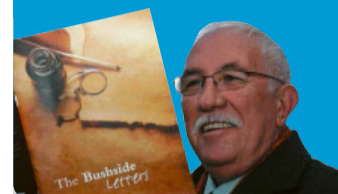


For further details about Major General Ross and the interconnecting ties with the USA and Canada see www.themanwhocapturedwashington.com. The bicentennial commemorative period (2012-15) offers an opportunity to establish transatlantic links marking Ulster's involvement on both sides of the conflict during the War of 1812.

During the Battle of Baltimore in September 1814 (when Ross was killed), the defiant flying of the US flag at Fort McHenry, following a massive Royal Navy bombardment, features in the lyrics of the American National Anthem – the Star Spangled Banner. Fort McHenry was named President Washington's Secretary of War, Ballymena born Dr James McHenry. Other prominent individuals involved on the American side with Ulster Scots roots included Oliver Hazard Perry, victor over the

British at the Battle of Lake Erie in 1813. Perry is a member of the most famous family in US naval history. His father, Christopher Raymond Perry, was captured on board a US privateer during the American War of Independence and was held in Newry barracks where he fell in love with and later married a local lass, Sarah Wallace Alexander. Sarah traced her lineage through to William Wallace of Braveheart fame. Oliver Hazard Perry was very proud of his bloodline to William Wallace.

CHARLIE 'THA POOCHER' RANNALS



Lukin Baak Agen

Noo tha new year haes cum tae pass an tha wurl dinnae enn in 2012 as some micht hae thocht am wunnerin whuther tae luk baak ir luk forrit. A lake tae luk baak tae aa tha guid times that A hae had in mae lifetime an as a boady yince sed tae me, 'niver mine tha morra sure yer a lang while deid'. A dinnae know if it is tha saim wae is aa, but whun A luk baak A try an forget tha vexin things that heppened.

Whun A luk baak tae whun A wus boarn in tha middle o tha war years an by tha wye am taakin aboot the second wurl war naw tha first. Times wur hard for mae feyther an moather leevin in a tied hoose in tha North Entrim countrie side. Tha mair A niver iver mine gane tae mae bed hungry A niver had ony bother atin what wus pit in front o me. Ye shane larned naw tae turn up yer neb at tha meat ye wur gein. Mae feyther wud hae aye pit in a drill ir twa o guid protas along wae leeks an wee eirly hairts. Boys a boys thaur is yin thing am sure o, tha protas noo-a-deys winnae houl a kannle tae tha Sherps Express that wur grew in mae feythers garden. Aff coorse thaur wus aye tha odd hen rennin aboot an whiles as a trate mae feyther wud hae pu'ed tha neck o yin for mae moather tae maak a pot o guid broth. Aff coorse in mae ain heid A think nae boady iver made broth lake mae moather. Then thaur wus hir boiled rice puddins, tha baiked breid that she baiked on a graet big iron griddle, soda breid, fadge an slims. Naethin kan iver cum close tae atin soda breid strecht aff tha griddle wae tha butther dreepin aff it an a moothfa o guid butthermilk tae wash it doon wae. Sure dae ye know this A dinnae know whaur ye cud get a griddle noo-a-deys yit alane guid butthermilk.

Aff coorse awa baak then yer diet wud hae bane helped along whun tha grocery kert wud hae caa'd yince a week for ye cud aye a got a bit o guid boars baak wae tha rine left on an aff coorse it wusnae pumped fu o wather tha wye it is noo. Tha butcher's kert caa'd on a Seterdey moarnin an tha beef sausages he brocht along wae an egg craaked in tha pan wur aye a trate for yer tay. Tha marra bone ye got wusnae gein tae tha doag, ach naw, it wus used tae maak broth wae an it wus anither delicht. Tha bried man caa'd as weel wae his paris buns an speckled breid an aff coorse he brocht tha weekly paper tae is frae tha toon at nae extra charge. Whiles tha fishman caa'd an mae moather wud bocht a bit o dried ling aff him an a mine it hung ahint tha dure on a big nel an she wud hae tane a bit aff it noo an agane tae maak a male oot o. If A mine richt she steeped for while tae tak tha saut oot o it, then she poached it in sweet milk an it wus tane along twarthy guid Arran Victors. Sae A hope yese kan see hoo tae an oul boy lake maesel whiles lakes tae luk baak tae tha guid oul deys in mae North Entrim hame noo jest a far aff memory but nane tha less a guid yin.

Ulster-Scots Place to Visit The Linen Hall Library, Belfast

By John Killen, chief librarian at The Linen Hall Library

The Linen Hall Library is situated in the heart of Belfast city. Founded in 1788 as the Belfast Reading Society, it celebrates its 225th birthday on May 13 this year.

As you approach its iconic front door at 17 Donegall Square North, industry and politics mingle in the festoons of linen and the Red Hand of Ulster carved in sandstone above the entrance. Within is a priceless collection of books, prints, newspapers, pamphlets and artefacts which record our shared history.



This year the Library will showcase its varied collections including this rare political postcard documenting the strength of feeling aroused by the Third Home Bill

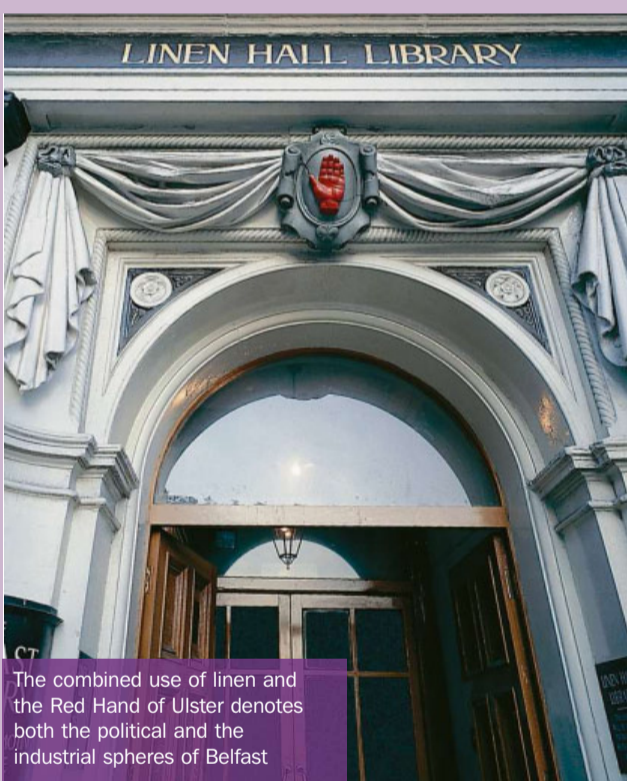
The Library's first minute book contains the signatures of the founding fathers, leaders of Belfast industry, religion, science, education and banking.

Roger Mulholland, architect and builder, was its first president while Henry Joy McCracken became an early committee member and Gilbert McIlveen its first secretary. William Ritchie, lowland Scot and founder of Belfast's shipbuilding industry, joined the Library in 1793.

Above the windows on the first floor are a series of stained glass portraits commissioned in 1892. These are portraits of men eminent in literature and science. Newton and Faraday are there, as are Shakespeare and Burke; pride of place goes to Sir Walter Scott and to Scotland's National Bard, Robert Burns.

This is appropriate, as the Library has the most extensive collection of Burns poetry outside Scotland. This collection was donated to the Library by the people of Belfast and contains the first Belfast printing of Burns' poetry outside Scotland. This rare book has been re-printed by the Library, who also have it on their website as a turn-page e-book.

On January 23 the Library hosts its gala Burns Supper. This is fast becoming one of the most popular events in the Library's calendar – an evening to celebrate all things Ulster-Scots. Highland dress predominates, and we are entertained by a piper, some of the Bard's best known pieces including To a Mouse, Tam O'Shanter and Auld Lang Syne – and a dram or two.



The combined use of linen and the Red Hand of Ulster denotes both the political and the industrial spheres of Belfast

During the year the Library will showcase its varied collections, in partnership with the Ulster-Scots Agency, Belfast City Council, the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and others. The 400th anniversary of the granting of its Charter to the town of Belfast will be marked by an exhibition including the first book printed in Belfast – An Answer to the Bishop of Derry's Second Admonition to the Dissenting Inhabitants of his Diocese, Especially as to Matters Respecting the Public Worship of God – which was printed in Belfast in 1698. Ephemeral items which will make up the exhibition will include rare political postcards which tell us of the strength of feeling aroused by the Third Home Bill. One such card, published in 1912 by the Ulster Publishing Company, is entitled *The Ulster-Scot*, and contains the poem:

"This land our heritage by richt
Priest ridden saints may grudge us
Three hunner years we have been here
And deil th' fit they'll budge us"
As we progress through 2013 the Library will address the Ulster-Scots migration to the United States of America in the 18th century. The correspondence of Benjamin Franklin, American inventor and statesman, sets the scene when he writes to Sir Edward Newenham, Bart, Dublin on 27 May 1779: "I have received some time since a letter from a person at Belfast, informing me that a great number of people in those parts were desirous of going to America, if passports could be obtained from them... I shall always be ready to afford every assistance and security in my power to such undertakings... I admire the spirit with which I see they are at last determined to claim some share of

Above the windows on the first floor are a series of stained glass portraits commissioned in 1892. These are portraits of men eminent in literature and science.



The Belfast Newsletter was the first paper outside of America to print the Declaration of Independence.

that freedom...which is the right of all mankind."

The Ulster-Scots involvement in the writing of the American Declaration of Independence, their participation in the American War of Independence and their contribution to the development of the fledgling democracy will be highlighted by the display of the first printing of the Declaration of Independence outside America, in *The Belfast Newsletter* 23-27 August 1776.

In what is an exciting year for the Ulster-Scots and Scotch-Irish at the Linen Hall Library, in June it will host the Librarian of the New York Library Society, as sister institution to the Linen Hall Library and founded (among others) by Ulster-Scots settlers in New York.

For more information go online at www.linenhall.com or call 028 9032 1707

The tale of a 'proud and feisty' people

Local author Billy Kennedy reviews ***The Other Irish*** (***The Scots-Irish Rascals who Made America***) by Karen F. McCarthy

The Scots-Irish in the United States have an illustrious legacy which should be the envy of other diasporas in North America. After all they were, as President William McKinley said, "the first to proclaim for liberty in the great United States".

Their fearless contribution on the 18th century American frontier in creating a civilisation out of a bleak wilderness is the stuff of classic movies and countless novels, yet still in some quarters the Scots-Irish, whose hardy forebears moved out of Ulster in their tens of thousands, do not get the recognition they fully deserve. This unique inheritance of a restless people who, over several centuries, traversed two continents is illuminatingly and accurately teased out by distinguished journalist Karen F. McCarthy in a new book, titled *The Other Irish* (*The Scots-Irish Rascals who Made America*). This is a book written in straight-forward news feature style, both factual and entertaining as one would expect of a journalist of Karen's standing. As Karen says, the "other Irish rascals" had a litany of names. "In Ireland they're called Ulster-Scots, Ulstermen, Northerners, Ulster Protestants, Presbyterians, Unionists. In America, they were called Irish until the mid-1800s, when the Catholic Irish arrived.

"Given the animosity between the two people, those who had travelled from the north of Ireland changed their name to Scotch-Irish to distinguish themselves from their old foes. When it became widely known that Scotch was a whiskey, they became Scots-Irish."

Karen, seeking to separate them from the narrow politically motivated Irish American (Irish republican) strain, adds: "Call them what you will - they are the little-lauded Other Irish." Indeed, the Ulster-Scots, or the Scots-Irish as they are best known in the United States, were the first set of emigrants from Ireland to seek a new life across the Atlantic and how well they stuck to the task of establishing communities in mountainous wooded regions, and in cities and towns as the western frontier moved to its outer limits.

Karen McCarthy has assiduously followed the picturesque Appalachian pathway that I took over a decade and a half in the research and compilation for my 10 books on the Scots-Irish and, the fascination with a story that can overwhelm but still titillate, jumps out at the reader with a sense of real adventure and deep-rooted cultural identity over the 380 pages of her excellent book.

Her chapter on three frontiersmen and their guns takes source material from my book *Three Men of Destiny*, which charts the lives and achievements of three of the most durable Scots-Irish luminaries - Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston and David (Davy) Crockett.

'The Other Irish' is different in style with *Born Fightin' - How the Scot-Irish Shaped America*, a well-researched, non-academic 2005 book prolifically written by James Webb, Vietnam veteran and Democratic senator for the Shenandoah Valley in the US Senate. Webb's best-selling book was a personal glossary, but the substance of Karen's work has close parallels.

Webb, intensely proud of his Scots-Irish roots, features in Karen's chapters along with another of a kin James E. Webb, a down to earth "good ole boy with a law degree" from North



Ian Crozier, chief executive of the Ulster-Scots Agency is pictured with author and journalist, Karen F. McCarthy

Carolina who rose to become an under-secretary of state in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 'New Deal' regime of the late 1930s and 1940s.

As Karen McCarthy recounts, the Webbs may have been better educated than the other Scots-Irish families in the rural backcountry of North Carolina and Virginia, but they were still a normal, rural Presbyterian family; church-going, neighbourly, hard working and doggedly self-reliant. All the best characteristics of typical Scots-Irish folk in the south-eastern Appalachian region.

Jim Webb, the author and Vietnam war hero from the mountains of south-west Virginia and a man signed up to the egalitarian principles of Jacksonian Democracy, pioneered by President Andrew Jackson in the early part of the 19th century - "government for the people, by the people" - charged towards Washington in a popular crusade in the early years of the new millennium.

Karen McCarthy writes: "The days of self-reliance were fading. These descendants of the independent Scots-Irish in the Appalachians, who always wanted fairness and never wanted a hand-out began to feel the effects of the same government betrayal that had rallied their ancestors to rebellion on two

occasions."

She recounts Senator Jim Webb's response to President George W. Bush's State of the Union address in January 2006: "President Andrew Jackson established an important principle of American-style democracy - that we should measure the health of our society in apex not at its base.

"Not with the numbers that come out from bankers in Wall Street, but with the living conditions that exist in Main Street. We must recapture that spirit today."

Surely, an interesting modern analogy from the inspirational leadership of the seventh President of the United States Andrew Jackson, whose humble parents Andrew and Elizabeth left Boneybefore outside Carrickfergus for America in 1765, just 18 months before he was born in the wild and rugged Waxhaws region of the Carolinas. Jackson, one of 17 American Presidents with Ulster blood in his veins, is the archetypal Scots-Irish hero - victorious US army commander at the Battle of New Orleans in January 1815 and President over two terms 1828-36.

Sam Houston, whose family were also of East Antrim stock, took inspiration from Jacksonian Democracy to vie for freedom and liberty in

'Nothing like those Kennedys'

The following is an excerpt from an article first published in The Huffington Post (the influential American political blog) by writer and journalist, **Court Stroud**

After reading *The Other Irish: The Scots-Irish Rascals Who Made America*, a wonderfully entertaining and highly informative book of historical non fiction by journalist Karen McCarthy, I finally understand. My grandmother's anger when asked how we were related to America's royal family is one tiny element in a conflict that's been raging at least since the Roman Empire, perhaps longer. McCarthy takes the reader on a sweeping journey, which begins in Europe with the origins of the ancient antagonism between the Gaelic tribe Dál Riata and the marauding Picts, continues with the settlement of Scots in Northern Ireland during the Plantation of Ulster and then moves to the Siege of Derry, a showdown in 1688 between the deposed Catholic King James II of England and his usurper, the Protestant King William of Orange. William rescued the Presbyterian inhabitants of the ancient walled city from a gruelling siege, and afterwards, Northern Irish Protestants became known as "Billy boys".

Even though she's writing about events that happened 300 years ago, the author's agility as a storyteller makes each moment come alive via concrete descriptions and human-interest stories. Rare is the writer who can not only recite historical facts, but also make them vibrant and flesh-coloured. McCarthy is indeed one such gifted writer.

To read the article in its entirety visit http://www.huffingtonpost.com/court-stroud/the-other-irish_b_2158816.html

the great Lone Star state of Texas. Along with another Tennessean Davy Crockett and a host of luminaries before and since, Jackson and Houston, Karen McCarthy asserts, are numbered among the Scots-Irish "rascals" who made America.

Rebellious, independent and fervently religious, those thousands of folk with grand dreams sailed from Ulster's harbours through the 1700s. They tamed the American South, pitching fearlessly for independence and the creation of a nation that was to become foremost in the world.

Karen McCarthy's expertly researched and insightful documentary on a proud and feisty people certainly holds a place with the best in historical literary works on the Scots-Irish (Ulster-Scots).

* *The Other Irish* (*The Scots-Irish Rascals Who Made America*) by Karen McCarthy. Published by Sterling Publishing Company, New York (2011)

* Billy Kennedy is the author of the Scots-Irish Chronicles (10 volumes). Published by Ambassador Publications (South Carolina) 1995-2008.

The Other Irish by Karen McCarthy is available from the following websites: Amazon, Waterstones and iTunes.

RECIPES

Cooking with **Judith McLoughlin**



Stout-braised short ribs with Georgia peanuts, shallots and Ulster champ

The story:

This recipe comes from a signature dish I was asked to create for a superb Atlanta restaurant to place on their menu for their annual March madness and the dish was a huge success I'm glad to say. The braised beef, falling off the bone with overtones of rich, dark stout, is bound to please anyone. Georgia peanuts and local Southern greens were added for a "fusion" flavor combining both the northern Ulster flavors with some southern sparkle!

Stout-braised ribs ingredients:

4½ lbs. beef short ribs (bone-in)
1 tsp. kosher salt
½ tsp. black pepper
2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
1 oz. (¼ cup) all-purpose flour
2 Tbsp. unsalted butter
1 large onion (chopped)
2 medium carrots (chopped)
2 stalk celery (chopped)
2 Granny Smith apples (chopped)
bouquet garni (bunch of thyme & bay

leaf tied together)

1½ pints (3 cups) veal stock
1½ pints (3 cups) chicken stock
one 12 oz. bottle of Irish stout
2 fl. oz. (¼ cup) molasses

Garnish ingredients:

garden herbs (chervil, chives, parsley)
1½ oz (¼ cup) Georgia peanuts (roasted and chopped)
1 oz. (¼ cup) pickled shallots (chopped)



How to make it:

- Season the ribs with salt and pepper and toss them in flour.
- Heat some oil in a large skillet and braise the ribs over a medium-high heat for 4 minutes on each side to seal, then transfer to a large baking pan.
- Sauté the onions, carrots, celery, and apple in a skillet until softened then transfer to the same large baking pan with the ribs.
- Pour over the Irish stout, stocks, and molasses. Stir and add the bouquet garni.
- Place the baking pan in the lower third of the oven at 250° for 4–5 hours until the beef is tender and falling off the bone.
- Strain the cooking liquid and set aside, discard the vegetables and bouquet garni.
- Transfer the cooked ribs to a cooling rack and remove the meat from the bones.
- In a skillet pan, reduce the braising liquid to half by slowly simmering.
- Combine rib meat with the sauce to finish.
- Serve the braised short ribs on a bed of green "Champ" potatoes garnished with local herbs, roasted Georgia peanuts, and some pickled shallots.

Neeps'n Tatties

Mashed rutabaga (Irish turnip) and carrots with creamed potato

The story:

Scots-Irish folks love their root vegetables and love their beef so I have combined my take on two Ulster classic dishes to make a winning combination, sure to warm any kitchen on a cold damp night! These are true comfort foods that suit the colder climates in Scotland and Northern Ireland, but have also proven very popular in the United States. People love the wholesomeness of dishes such as these that promote the strength of the ingredients, allowing the natural flavors to flow through.

Serve the Neeps' n Tatties mashed side by side either on their own or as a side dish to compliment the flavors of the beef dish and enjoy an Ulster-Scots feast!



Neeps ingredients:

1 lb. turnip/rutabagas (peeled & cut into chunks)
1 lb. carrots (peeled and quartered)
2 Tbsp. unsalted butter
3 Tbsp. light cream
¼ tsp. nutmeg (good pinch)
1 Tbsp. parsley (chopped)
½ tsp. sea salt
¼ tsp. white pepper

Tatties ingredients:

2 lbs. potatoes (floury variety peeled & quartered)
2 oz. unsalted butter
2 fl. oz (¼ cup) light cream
1 Tbsp. chives (chopped)
½ tsp. sea salt
¼ tsp. ground black pepper

How to make it:

- To make the Neeps, prepare the turnip and carrots then cut into small even pieces.
- Place the turnips in a pot of cold water and bring to a boil.
- Cook for 10 minutes before adding the carrots.
- Cook the vegetables together for a further 20–25 minutes until tender when pierced with a fork.
- Drain the vegetables and mash them together.
- Gently heat the milk and butter together, incorporate liquid with the vegetables, and

stir in the parsley, nutmeg, salt, and pepper.

- To make the Tatties, prepare the potatoes and place in pot of cold water.
- Bring to a boil and cook for 15–20 minutes until tender when pierced with a fork.
- Drain and dry out by placing the potatoes in metal colander over a saucepan, allowing the heat to gently dry and steam them.
- Warm the milk and add the butter.
- Mash potatoes and add wet ingredients.
- Stir in the chives, salt, and pepper.

Ulster-Scots Agency supports music and dance tuition in 2013

The Ulster-Scots Agency has provided financial support to a range of community organisations that will deliver music and dance tuition throughout this year.

Thirty groups have received support for Highland and Scottish country dance tuition. In addition to a range of established groups receiving funding in 2013, four new groups

based in Banbridge, Dromore, Coleraine and Clooney in Londonderry have also been awarded funding.

The dance tuition will enable a wide range of groups throughout Northern Ireland and in County Donegal to engage in both Highland and Scottish country dance. The programme of tuition, which started this month, will run for a period of 30 weeks.

There is growing interest in both Highland and Scottish country dance

and the Agency is pleased to support these groups as they further develop their skills through our tuition programme.

There has also been a high uptake on the Agency's music tuition programme for 2013. Music tuition will commence on February 1 and runs for 20 weeks.

Further details are available on the course and workshops section of the Ulster Scots Agency's website www.ulsterscotsagency.com/education/courses-and-workshops.



WEANS' WURLD**ROBERT BURNS – Did you know?**

Robert Burns was born on January 25 1759 in the 'auld cley biggin', now known as Burns Cottage in Alloway, near Ayr. Robert was a Scottish poet and was also known as 'Robbie'. He was also sometimes known as the 'ploughman poet', as the eldest Son of a farmer Robbie had 3 Brothers - William, John and Gilbert and 3 Sisters - Agnes, Annabella and Isobel. His first book of poems was published in 1788. His birthday on January 25 is celebrated all

over the world as Burns Night. On Burns Night a traditional supper of haggis, neeps and tatties is served and guests are entertained with Burns poems and songs. Robbie Burns died on July 21 1796 at the young age of 37 from a heart condition he had suffered from since childhood. Some of Robbie Burns' most famous songs include Auld Lang Syne (the song people sing on New Year's), Ye Banks and Braes of Bonnie Doon and My Love's Like a Red, Red Rose.

Places to visit

The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, Alloway

The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum offers a truly unique encounter with Scotland's favourite son. The museum comprises the famous Burns Cottage where the poet was born, the historic landmarks where he set his greatest work, the elegant monument and gardens created in his honour and a modern museum housing the world's most important collection of his life and works.

Address: Murdoch's Lone, Alloway, Ayr, Scotland, KA7 4PQ
Telephone: 0844 493 2601
Website: www.burnsmuseum.org.uk
Email: burns@nts.org.uk



**ROBERT BURNS
BIRTHPLACE
MUSEUM**

Click on this

View a short video about the life of Robert Burns

This video is aimed at children and is available to view at www.scotland.org/video-gallery/the-story-of-robert-burns. Video courtesy of scotland.org - We hope you enjoy it!

Robert Burns Centre, Dumfries

Situated in the town's eighteenth century watermill on the west bank of the River Nith, the Robert Burns Centre tells the story of Robert Burns' last years spent in the bustling streets and lively atmosphere of Dumfries in the late eighteenth century. The exhibition is illuminated by many original manuscripts and belongings of the poet. There is a fascinating scale model of Dumfries in the 1790s and a haunting audio-visual presentation.

Test your powers of observation with a gallery investigation, discover Dumfries and Galloway's Burns connections and browse around the shop with its wide selection of Scottish books, gifts and keepsakes. Admission free.

In January 2013, open Tuesday – Saturday 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm with special extended opening hours for Saturday 26 (10am-5pm) and Sunday 27 January (11am-4pm).

A number of special events will take place in Dumfries to Celebrate Robert Burns' Birthday in 2013 – full details are on Page 5.

Address: Mill Road, Dumfries DG2 7BE

Telephone: 01387 264808

Website: www.dumgal.gov.uk/artsandmuseums
Email: dumfriesmuseum@dumgal.gov.uk

PUZZLE CORNER

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**Ulster-Scots
Word search**

See if you can find the following Ulster-Scots words below:

Halion (lazy scoundrel)
Wee (small)
Minging (stinking)
Hame (home)
Eejit (silly person)
Licht (light)
Fadge (potato bread)
Weans (children)

Brave Competition Results

Thank you to everyone who entered our 'Brave' competition in the November edition of The Ulster-Scot. The two lucky winners of a Brave DVD and Book Gift Set are:

Christopher McKay, Ballymoney
Lewis Wilson, Limavady
Congratulations!

the Ulster-Scot Competition**WIN a Burns Book of your choice**

We have four prizes to give away in this edition – the lucky winners can choose from one of the following two titles:

The Life and Times of Robert Burns - A delightful introduction to the life and times of Robert Burns. The book is in full colour and the CD is great fun! (For children of all ages).

Rabbie's Rhymes - Robert Burns for wee folk, by Karen Sutherland (For younger children).

Q. What famous Robbie Burns song is sung on New Year's?

Send in your answer along with your full name and address by email putting **BURNS COMPETITION** into the subject line to: competition@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk for your chance to win. Good Luck! **Closing date:** Monday 11 February

