



Ulster-Scots
Festivals 2013
SEE PAGES 8 & 9

Ulster-Scots Agency (Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch) official publication SATURDAY JULY 27 2013

Hollywood star on board for Boat Factory



Oscar-nominated actor and Hollywood A-lister Liam Neeson was among a host of leading names who dropped in to see Belfast-born playwright Dan Gordon (centre) perform in *The Boat Factory* during its four-week run at the 'Brits Off Broadway' festival in New York last month. On the left is actor Michael Condon, who performed alongside Dan in the play, which charts the history of the men who worked in Belfast's Harland & Wolff shipyard.

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Fascinating new book documents Ulster-Scots emigration history



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Special two-page feature looking at a summer of events and festivals



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Ulster-Scots Place To Visit - Carnfunnock Country Park

Fair faa ye



Welcome to the July 2013 edition of the *Ulster-Scot*. Summer is a time for getting out and enjoying everything that we have here in Northern Ireland - it is also an ideal time to get out there and experience Ulster-Scots!

We are inviting you to join us at one (or as many as you like!) of the community organised events and festivals taking place over the coming weeks and months - for more information see pages 8 and 9.

In August, Belfast will host the third largest international sporting event in the world - The World Police and Fire Games. Athletes from all over the world are coming to Northern Ireland to compete in 56 sports at 42 different venues from 1 to 10 August, for full details visit www.2013wpfg.com. Visitors will also be treated to a cultural programme of Ulster-Scots activity during the Games. Read more on page 3.

This really is turning into quite a year with the hugely successful G8 in June and with The Gathering Ireland and UK City of Culture still ongoing. Have you got your tickets for the Walled City Tattoo yet? An extra date has just been added! More about this on page 11.

Our Ulster-Scots Place to Visit this month is Carnfunnock Country Park in Larne. The park offers over 191 hectares of mixed woodland, colourful gardens, walking trails and activities - all with views towards Scotland. For your chance to win a season parking pass for Carnfunnock Country Park enter our July competition - further details are available on page 13.

Also in this edition we look at Dan Gordon's recent success at the Brits Off Broadway Festival in New York - the Agency was delighted to support this project in partnership with Tourism Ireland, the first time that a play from Northern Ireland has made it onto the festival's programme so well done Dan and everyone involved in taking *The Boat Factory* to an international stage!

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

The Ulster-Scot

The official newspaper for the Ulster-Scots Agency /
Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

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Editor: Gary McDonald

Associate Editor: Gillian Pearson

Production: The Irish News

Printing: Interpress NI Limited

The Ulster-Scot next edition: Saturday September 14

Deadline for copy: Wednesday August 21

Contributors should note that publication of any submitted article is at the Editor's discretion



Ulster-Scots Agency
Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

Free app takes users on unique Ulster-Scots journey



Pictured at the launch of the new app are John Erskine from MAGUS with mayors Councillor Wesley Irvine and Councillor Stephen McIlveen

A new tourism app telling the story of the Ulster-Scots in Ards and North Down has been launched.

The app - which has been created in a joint venture by Ards and North Down Borough Councils and funded by DCAL through the Ministerial Advisory Group on the Ulster-Scots Academy (MAGUS) - takes the user on a journey throughout the two boroughs telling the fascinating story of what has become known as the "home of the Ulster-Scots". The free-to-download app allows users to follow an audio tour detailing the history and stories of the main Ulster-Scots sites of interest such as Bangor Abbey, North Down Museum, Newtownards Priory and Grey Abbey, along with associated images of the sites. The tour is also accompanied with a map of the driving route detailing site locations and providing an historical synopsis.

The Ulster-Scots story is further told through an extended places of interest section and image gallery alongside a comprehensive biography section which details the lives of the most influential Ulster-Scots settlers of the day, including Sir James Hamilton and Sir Hugh Montgomery, fathers of the settlements of the early 1600s.

When visiting the sites the user can also test their Ulster-Scots historical knowledge and what they have learned on the tour with an interactive quiz relating to each site. The app also covers everything a visitor needs to know about the Ards and North Down areas, from accommodation to attractions and activities, useful information and places to eat.

An events calendar allows visitors to keep up to date with all that is going on across the boroughs including the Ulster-Scots music and dance at

Cockle Row Cottages in Groomsport this summer, while a local offers section shows discounts and more available from businesses in Ards and North Down.

Councillor Stephen McIlveen, mayor of Ards, said: "We're delighted with the launch of this app. The boroughs have long been seen as the birthplace of the Ulster-Scots and using this new technology gives us another opportunity to spread knowledge about and create interest in, our history to visitors and locals alike." North Down mayor Councillor Wesley Irvine added: "This is an excellent example of two councils working together for the benefit of their tourism industries."

"It would not have been possible to embrace new technologies such as this without the support of MAGUS and DCAL, and our appreciation goes out to them for making it possible."



The app can be downloaded free from both the iTunes and Google Play stores or via www.discoverardsandnorthdown.com. An informational video on the Apps functions can be viewed on YouTube <http://tinyurl.com/ok6hce3>

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

'Gunk'

Meaning:
a shock

Ulster-Scots Cultural Programme for World Police and Fire Games

The games begin on August 1 with a spectacular opening ceremony at the King's Hall, celebrating the diversity of Northern Ireland and showcase local talent in music and dance.

The World Police & Fire Games Federation estimate that there will be approximately 10,000 extra visitors to Belfast for the duration of the games, when athletes will compete in 56 sports at 42 different venues across Northern Ireland. The main sporting activities will be centred around Belfast, Bangor and Portrush.

A cultural programme of activity will run alongside the sporting events of the games to showcase the arts and entertainment across Belfast and beyond.

As part of the Ulster-Scots cultural programme for the games, the Agency will

Belfast is hosting the 2013 World Police & Fire Games from August 1 – 10, an event which is the third largest international sporting event in the world – after the Olympic and Commonwealth Games.

be exhibiting at the Family and Local History Fair on Saturday August 3 (10am – 5pm) and Sunday August 4 (10am – 4pm) at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI).

The two-day event is free of charge and will take place at PRONI's headquarters at Titanic Quarter, Belfast.

Experts from PRONI, the National Archives of Ireland, Ulster Historical Foundation, North of Ireland Family History Society and many other societies and organisations will also be on hand at the Family and Local

History Fair to help and offer advice to visitors. Billy Kennedy, author of *'They Sailed from Londonderry'* (See page 6) will join the Ulster-Scots Agency at the event to deliver a number of short talks about his recently launched publication and copies of this and his previously published titles will also be available to purchase at the event.

On Saturday August 3 (11am – 7pm) and Sunday August 4 (1pm – 7pm) the Ulster-Scots Agency will also hold an outdoor event at the Lagan Lookout, 1 Donegall

Quay, Belfast as part of the Ulster-Scots cultural programme for the games. Entertainment on each day will include performances by a number of Ulster-Scots traditional groups and music from pipers, fiddlers and Lambeg drummers. There will also be displays of traditional Ulster-Scots dancing, soda and potato bread cookery demonstrations and a spinning wheel demonstration amongst others. This two-day event is free and everyone is welcome to come along and join in the festivities.

For further information about the Ulster-Scots cultural programme visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events/wpfg or to view full details of all of the events taking place during the games visit www.visit-belfast.com.

Weekend family fun at Cockle Row



COCKLE ROW COTTAGES IN GROOMSPORT

“The old fishermen's thatched cottages have been restored to their original charm depicting what Cockle Row would have been like around 1910

The Ulster-Scots Agency has been working in partnership with North Down Borough Council to add a cultural dimension to the programme of activity that has been organised to take place at Cockle Row Cottages in Groomsport each Saturday and Sunday during the summer (2pm to 4pm).

The beautiful village of Groomsport is known for its picturesque harbour and its two fishermen's cottages known as Cockle Row. The old fishermen's thatched cottages have been restored to their original charm depicting what Cockle Row would have been like around 1910.

The council's planned programme of entertainment for the remainder of the summer will be complemented by a number of traditional Ulster-Scots folk groups, pipers and Scottish Highland dancers every Sunday afternoon. The remainder of the summer programme is as follows:

- Saturday July 27 - 'Zoo-to-You' interactive animal encounters
- Sunday July 28 - Craft fair, children's crafts and

traditional Ulster-Scots music with Family Folk

- Saturday August 3 - Magician
- Sunday August 4 - Scottish highland dancing with Emma Copeland, Ark Open Farm, small animal roadshow and crafts
- Saturday August 10 - 'Zoo-to-You' interactive animal encounters and face painting
- Sunday August 11 - Piping display with Alan McCormick and clowning
- Saturday August 17 - Science show
- Sunday August 18 - Scottish highland dancing with Emma Copeland and circus skills
- Saturday August 24 - Balloon modelling and archery
- Sunday August 25 - Piping display with Alan McCormick, craft fair and children's crafts
- Saturday August 31- Magician

All of the above activities are free with the exception of the children's crafts, where a participation cost applies. The programme of entertainment at Cockle Row Cottages will continue on the first weekend in September with North Down Borough Council's Eagle Wing event, while on Sunday September 1 there will be Eagle Wing re-enactments with storytelling, face painting and crafts. All visitors are welcome.

**Groomsport
Cockle Row Cottages**

**Free Weekend Entertainment
2pm – 4pm**

**Cottages Open Daily
1 July – 1 September**

028 9127 0069 | northdowntourism.com | **great times!**

North Down Borough Council

Ulster Scots Academy moves a step closer

By Dr Bill Smith (chairman of Ministerial Advisory Group, Ulster-Scots Academy)

Sometimes strangers value our heritage more than we do ourselves. Take the President of the United States for example. Addressing an audience of young people in Belfast's Waterfront Hall in June, Barack Obama said: "Three hundred and twenty-five years ago, a ship set sail from the River Lagan for the Chesapeake Bay, filled with men and women who dreamed of building a new life in a new land. They, followed by hundreds of thousands more, helped America write those early chapters. They helped us win our independence. They helped us draft our Constitution.

"So many of the qualities that we Americans hold dear we imported from this land - perseverance, faith, an unbending belief that we make our own destiny, and an unshakable dream that if we work hard and we live responsibly, something better lies just around the bend."

We should be proud of who we are, and inclusive. The Ulster-Scots story concerns not just all of us here, but also millions of people in the Ulster-Scots diaspora. Without the influence of Ulster-Scots immigrants, the course of world history would have been very different.

The President stressed that knowledge and understanding are essential to the maintenance of peace. When the concept of an Ulster-Scots Academy first emerged two decades ago, its proponents were equally clear. They looked forward, not backward. They believed that bringing people together through their shared cultural heritage would raise awareness of those things that bind us together rather than divide us, thereby fostering a sense of mutual tolerance and respect.

That vision is reflected in the Development and Research Strategy which the Ministerial Advisory Group for the Ulster-Scots Academy (MAGUS) launched at Queen's University on June 27.

Addressing a gathering of influential activists and scholars, I outlined six factors whereby the Academy approach will reinforce the Executive's efforts to build a united community.



Pictured at the MAGUS launch at Queen's University on June 27 are (from left) Dr Ivan Herbison, Dr Bill Smith and Dr John McCavitt

1. By establishing the historical facts about the Ulster-Scots tradition and its relationships with the other two predominant traditions in this region, the Gaelic Irish and the English.
2. By disseminating evidence-based knowledge of the Ulster-Scots language, literature, heritage and culture.
3. By promoting popular understanding of the ideas and events which have given us our complex inheritance as "A Place Apart" – not merely British or Irish, but more than either.
4. By celebrating and giving voice to what John Dunlop in *A Precarious Belonging* has called "the particularity" of people from the Ulster-Scots tradition.
5. By bringing people together in a forum for cross-community dialogue and exchange of ideas.
6. By engaging the international diaspora in these activities.

The Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) originally published a draft of the Strategy for consultation last October, together with proposals for a Development Fund which would enable the sector to initiate and undertake research projects itself. The Fund would complement the main



"So many of the qualities that we Americans hold dear we imported from this land"

- President Obama
(speaking at The Waterfront Hall)

Academy budget, which the MAGUS has been investing since 2011.

We have improved the Strategy to take account of issues raised by respondents during the consultation. We have added two new strategic objectives:

1. "To identify, consider and progress options for the creation of a physical Ulster-Scots Academy". The Academy will work in partnership with other agencies in the sector and will be affiliated with the university system. Its premises will provide a convivial meeting-place; space for seminars, presentations and events; work and study areas; a resource centre; and secure storage for an Ulster-Scots archive. The Academy Online will open up global

access to Ulster-Scots materials; provide resources for schools and opportunities for individual learning; and use social media to build an international Ulster-Scots community. The Department is now commissioning a detailed evaluation of four options for the Academy's governance and financing, its organisational structure, accreditation and location.

2. "To promote equality and tackle poverty and social exclusion and their causes in taking forward the Academy approach". This reflects the contribution which the Academy will make towards creating employment; generating wealth; building the skills of the rising generation; and building a united community.

Respondents to the consultation welcomed the proposed Research & Development Fund which the Minister has authorised. It is now open for applications and will consider proposals for research and development projects which advance the Academy's objectives as set out in the Strategy. A total of £200,000 has been earmarked for the period to March 2015. Individual grants can range from £5,000 to £70,000. Further details including guidance notes and an application form can be downloaded from www.dcalni.gov.uk.

Further information is available from the MAGUS Secretariat on 028 9051 5033 or by emailing richardsproule@dcalni.gov.uk.

In response to representations received during the consultation process, the MAGUS has earmarked 25 per cent of the Fund for community-based and partnership projects, to encourage scholars and community activists to work together.

The Academy Strategy will secure and advance knowledge and understanding of Ulster-Scots language, literature, heritage, history, and cultural traditions.

It will contribute to the implementation of European Minority Language Charter standards by building the capacity of the sector; developing educational curricula and materials; supporting language learning; promoting research; and facilitating international connections.

We invite everyone working in the field to pull together to make a success of it, and at last to build the Academy which so many have striven so long for.

First Ulster-Scots Flagship Award presented

On Monday June 24 the Ulster-Scots Agency presented the Flagship Ulster-Scots Award to Balmore Primary School, Ballymoney - the first school in Ulster to be awarded Flagship School status.

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

The purpose of the programme is to support primary schools in the development of high quality educational and curricular opportunities for children and young people to learn more about Ulster-Scots heritage and culture.

Ulster-Scots Agency, Ian Crozier presented the Flagship Award to Jackie Morrison, principal of Balmore Primary School at a special event that was held to mark their achievement. Ian said: "I am delighted to present this award to

Balmore Primary School today; this is the first Ulster-Scots Flagship Award to be presented. On behalf of the Ulster-Scots Agency, I would like to congratulate the Principal, staff and also the pupils of Balmore Primary for your effort and hard work over the past number of years and for integrating Ulster-Scots into your everyday school life." The award was presented to Balmore Primary School in the presence of the Mayor of Ballymoney, Cllr John Finlay.

Pupils, parents, governors and invited guests were treated to an outstanding display of drama and performance by pupils from several classes, as well as having the opportunity to see an extensive display of the children's work in the medium of Ulster-Scots. If you would like to discuss the Ulster-Scots Flagship Schools Programme with a member of staff at the Ulster-Scots Agency, contact education officer Jane Wallace on 028 9089 1786 or email education@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk



Ian Crozier and principal Jackie Morrison with staff and pupils from Balmore Primary School in Ballymoney

Blue plaque unveiling in Donegal honours the 'father of American Presbyterianism'

A blue plaque has been unveiled in Co Donegal to mark the life and achievements of exceptional pioneer Francis Makemie (1658 - 1708), who made an enduring contribution to religious life thousands of miles from his birthplace.

The historic event at the Old Meeting House at Back Lane in Ramelton - organised by the Ulster-Scots Agency and Ulster History Circle - was the first such ceremony ever held outside Northern Ireland.

From his early beginnings in Co Donegal, Francis Makemie achieved lasting renown by bringing the light of his Presbyterian faith to American shores, and it was fitting that the plaque was unveiled at the Presbyterian Church in Ramelton, where he first worshipped.

Makemie had to go to Glasgow for his religious education. On his return he was called as a missionary to the New World, taking a little acorn with him which over the years had grown to the mighty oak of the Presbyterianism Church as one of the foremost Christian churches in the United States.

In the first millennium Donegal man St Columba left Irish shores for Scotland to bring Christianity to Britain - and Makemie was described as the St Columba of the second millennium for what he had done for Presbyterianism in America.

In America he was prosecuted for preaching without a license but his robust defence of freedom to preach and worship as one pleases struck a major blow in establishing religious tolerance in America and ensured that every religion was free to practise their own form of Christianity.

At a ceremony at Ramelton, guests were entertained by lively Scottish music and dance by a young pipers' group led by Andy McGregor, who delivers piping tuition on behalf of the Ulster-Scots Agency in schools throughout Ulster. The students from the Royal and Prior School in Raphoe, Raphoe Central National School and Glenmaquin National School are all members of a juvenile pipe band which will be representing the Ulster-Scots Agency at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow in August.

Chris Spurr, chairman of the Ulster History Circle, welcomed guests to the latest in the series of blue plaque unveilings. The Circle's work is recognised as making an important contribution to heritage tourism and in providing people with an appreciation of their shared past. For some time the Circle has aimed to extend its activities into the other third of Ulster, and the hope is that this initial plaque in Ramelton will lead to many more such plaques in Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan.

The Circle - which is an entirely voluntary organisation which relies on the support of local authorities, individuals, organisations and businesses to fund its plaques - said it was grateful to the Presbyterian Church in Ramelton for their enthusiastic support, and to the Ulster-Scots Agency for generously funding the plaque.

Since the early 1980s, the Ulster History Circle



Guests who joined Minister Dinny McGinley TD at the unveiling of the blue plaque for Francis Makemie included Jim Devenney, Agency chair Tom Scott, mayor Ian McGarvey, Ulster History Circle director Chris Spurr, Joe McHugh TD, Trevor Gamble, trustee of the Old Meeting House, Prof Laurence Kirkpatrick and Dr Ian Adamson



Pictured left: Andy McGregor with some of the young pipers from Co Donegal who entertained guests at the Francis Makemie blue plaque unveiling ceremony

had put up a total of 160 plaques to celebrate the achievements of those men and women who have contributed significantly to history, locally, nationally, and internationally.

Mr Spurr said that every plaque had to have permission to be sited on a particular building. The historic structure in Ramelton is looked after by a group of trustees and he was delighted that both they and the Presbyterian minister Rev Amanda Best supported this proposal for a plaque from the outset. Professor Laurence Kirkpatrick from the Union Theological College gave an interesting and uplifting address about Francis Makemie's early life and its influence on his spiritual and intellectual development, which had stood him in good stead in his life as a businessman and minister in the new world, which was then still a British colony.

"His influence on the development of Presbyterianism in the United States could not be overstated. His defence of freedom to preach and practice his faith, as he and his fellow Presbyterians wanted, became the bedrock of the American way of life and resonates today in the USA," Prof Kirkpatrick said.

Dinny McGinley, Minister of State, Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht, said he hoped the Makemie plaque would be the first of many Ulster History Circle blue plaques in the Republic of Ireland.

Minister McGinley congratulated Professor Kirkpatrick for his interesting talk and also the Ulster History Circle and the Ulster-Scots Agency for erecting and supporting the plaque. He welcomed other public representatives to the event, including members of Dail Eireann and the County Council, as well as Ulster-Scots Agency chairman Tom Scott and Dr Ian Adamson.

The Minister said he was delighted that the Church in Donegal was still flourishing. He also acknowledged the contribution of the Ulster-Scots in promoting their language and their culture.

"The evidence of this is here today in these young pipers, some of whom have been playing for less than a year. It's great to see the young people coming forward and bringing that tradition to the next generation."

Mr Scott, in reply, said Minister McGinley had been very supportive of what the Agency had been trying to do in the border counties,

particularly his home County of Donegal. "He has encouraged the development of piping in the area, and today we have these young people, some of whom have only taken up piping only in the last six months, who were making a fantastic contribution to their culture and heritage in this part of Ireland," Mr Scott said.

He thanked the Minister for his support and the Ulster History Circle and others for the work they were doing.

Trevor Gamble, member of the Trustees of the Old Meeting House, thanked the Ulster History Circle, on behalf of the Trustees and the Ramelton Heritage Association, for erecting the plaque.

He said it was more than 30 years since they had begun plans to restore the Old Meeting House. It had been a church up to about 1906 when it was replaced by the present church building. This had led to establishing its links with Francis Makemie and his links with the United States.

The plaque will add something extra to Ramelton and will help bring more visitors to the town," he said.

After the plaque was unveiled by Minister McGinley, the ladies of the Ramelton Presbyterian congregation provided guests with refreshments in the Makemie Hall.

New book documents city's Ulster-Scots emigration history

A fascinating new book detailing the emigration of many of the local Ulster-Scots population from Londonderry throughout the 18th century was launched by historian and journalist Billy Kennedy at The Playhouse Theatre in Londonderry.

Supported by the Culture Company and the Ulster-Scots Agency, the book was written to mark Derry-Londonderry's year as UK City of Culture, focusing on one of the most fascinating chapters in the city's history when the city was a main port for the emigration of Ulster-Scots Presbyterians to America. *They Sailed from Londonderry* follows the epic journey made by thousands of Protestants from the north west who left the city's docks to seek a better life across the Atlantic. The diaspora were prominently involved in the establishment of the United States as the bedrock of global democracy and independence.

The list of Ulster-Scots luminaries who emanated from here is impressive, including Presidents James Knox Polk and Ulysses Simpson Grant, not to mention American hero of the wild frontier Davy Crockett, to name but a few.

Many ordinary Scots-Irish families lived a harsh life carving out civilisation on the American frontier, having left these shores with little or nothing to their name.

A statue in their honour stands at the former city docks area beside Sainsbury's shopping centre, representing three generations of the same family about to leave the city. The benches beside the figures are inscribed with the names of six of the ships involved in the city's emigrant trade over the course of three centuries.

Billy Kennedy is a journalist of wide recognition in Northern Ireland for more than 40 years. With the *Belfast News Letter*, a newspaper



Pictured from left to right are: Gregory Campbell MP, Fiona Kane (Culture Company) Derek Reaney (Ulster-Scots Agency) and Billy Kennedy

founded in 1737, he has been a news editor, assistant editor, and lead writer. He is also a public relations consultant, author, and lecturer.

His abiding interest is in the Scots-Irish settlement on the American frontier, and through his authorship, Billy Kennedy has lectured in major cities and towns in the south eastern Appalachian region, on the eastern seaboard and in Texas. He is also an authority on American country music and culture. His 10 previous books have included *The Scots-Irish in the Hills of Tennessee*, *The Scots-Irish in the Shenandoah Valley*, *The*

Scots-Irish in the Carolinas, and *The Scots-Irish in Pennsylvania and Kentucky*.

Mr Kennedy said: "Londonderry was a main port in the 18th century for the emigration to America of Presbyterians from Londonderry city and county, Co Donegal, north Tyrone and north Antrim.

"These people helped create towns and cities on the American frontier; they were instrumental in the signing of the American Declaration of Independence in July 1776 and in the Revolutionary War that followed, and their distinct characteristics in relation to liberty, democracy religion and cultural

awareness forged over several centuries what is known as the American psyche."

Guests at the well attended event included Londonderry mayor Martin Reilly; local MP Gregory Campbell; Jean Long, executive director of News Letter owners Johnston Press; Rev Rob Craig, Moderator of the General Assembly; and representatives from the Ulster-Scots Agency and Culture Company. The book is available to purchase from the Ulster-Scots Visitor and Information Centre on Great Victoria Street; the Culture Company offices at Ebrington in Londonderry; and at WH Smith, Easons and Debenhams.

CS Lewis - Made in Belfast

A new book by east Belfast author Sandy Smith is set to lift the lid on CS Lewis's early life in Belfast and reveal his strong Ulster-Scots links.

CS Lewis and The Island of His Birth chronicles the first years of the world-renowned author's life in Belfast and how Ireland, north and south, strongly influenced his writing.

Sandy Smith's new book allows the reader to walk in Lewis's footsteps, on a journey that covers Belfast and beyond, encapsulating the places, the stories and the inspiration for many of his greatest works.

The book reassesses this most seemingly English of writers as rooted and nourished by Irish and Ulster-Scots traditions and heritage - a heritage which gave rise to the flourishing of Lewis's creative imagination.

It is Lewis's unique sensibility, borne of an Irish childhood, which defines him more than the

stereotype - he is not simply of Oxford but of Belfast, Ulster and Ireland.

The book reflects the generosity of Lewis's imagination in this wider context. The Ulster-Scots Agency and Tourism Ireland were major supporters in the development and production of the project.

Sandy Smith officially launched his new book at an event on July 4 held at Riddel Hall in Queen's University, where he was joined by representatives of the Ulster-Scots Agency, Tourism Ireland, Lagan Press and guests. Sandy said: "It's my hope and intention that the images and information presented in this book will benefit not only tourists who come to visit Ireland, north and south, but a new generation of Lewis scholars, students and children who will enjoy the literary legacy he has left us."

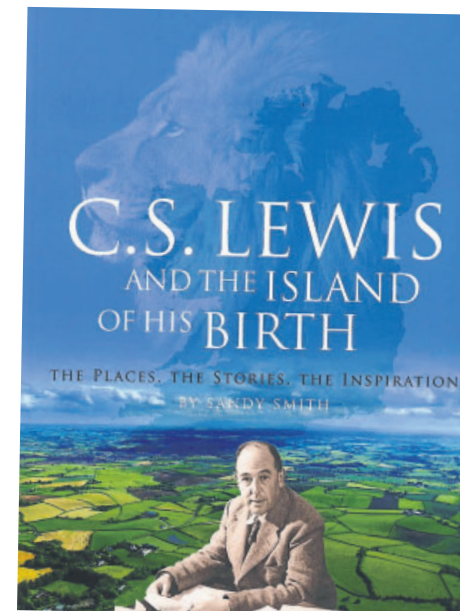
Jim Millar, director of education at the Ulster-Scots Agency, said: "Fifty years after his death, the life and work of CS Lewis remains a

source of inspiration to those in Ulster and to others further afield.

"What is not always immediately acknowledged though is that Lewis was born in Belfast and that his childhood was shaped by the people and places of Ulster.

"Sandy Smith's book is well written, being both interesting and enjoyable, revealing as it does, a broader picture of a Belfast man and his Irish and Ulster-Scots connections.

"The Ulster-Scots Agency is delighted to have been able to support this valuable addition to the corpus of written work about CS Lewis." Aubrey Irwin from Tourism Ireland said: "In recent years Sandy Smith's tours have intrigued growing numbers of international visitors to Belfast. By capturing this insider knowledge in a beautifully illustrated book that will become a reference for Lewis fans everywhere Tourism Ireland anticipates further interest in the places throughout Ireland that stimulated his magical stories."



CS Lewis and The Island of His Birth is available to purchase online at www.laganpress.co.

The Boat Factory hits the Big Apple

The Ulster-Scots Agency worked in partnership with Tourism Ireland to take *The Boat Factory* by Belfast born playwright Dan Gordon to the 'Brits Off Broadway' Festival in New York for four weeks in June. In the play Dan performs alongside actor Michael Condon to chart the history of the men who worked in Belfast's Harland & Wolff shipyard, conjuring up a host of colourful characters from the glory days of the shipbuilding era. In the following article Dan shares his experience of taking *The Boat Factory*, which is steeped in Ulster-Scots heritage, to New York and the response it has received.

Ulster roots run deep...

It's a funny thing, but the further away you go from Ulster the more you feel like you belong there. Coming to New York to perform my play *The Boat Factory* about my Ulster-Scots shipbuilding heritage has done exactly that for me.

Telling tales of the mighty ships and the men who built them has been a bit of a crusade for me over the years. My grandfather came from the shipyards of the Clyde in the early 1900s and my father's family were all apprenticed into the 'Yard' at Harland & Wolff. My mother's family were Andersons from the far north of Scotland who settled in Ulster during plantation times and had branches of the family who later emigrated and settled in Virginia.

The Boat Factory is the very first play from Northern Ireland to be staged in the celebrated New York City 'Brits off Broadway' festival in the 10 years it has existed. That attracted a lot of attention, and thanks to the Ulster-Scots connections it allowed a great focal point for 'Northern Irelanders' and 'Honorary Belfastians and Belfasti-ones' to congregate and celebrate their collective past and present.

We were honoured to have figures like Liam Neeson, Vanessa Redgrave and Suzanne Bertish attend and endorse the show. Theatre and television veteran Niall Tóibín of Ballykissangel (who does a very passable Ballymena accent), Eddie Cahill of CSI and world champion boxer John Duddy were among the early visitors.

What was really pleasing was the number of native New Yorkers who delighted in the play and the understanding it gave them of the place they knew before only as the birthplace of RMS Titanic. Others regaled us with stories of Ulster ancestry and planned visits on the back of seeing the show.

Several third- and fourth-generation Ulster-Scots came to us bearing not just stories of their family heritage but actual souvenirs and photographs. A gentleman produced his great grandfather's watch inscribed as a gift from his employer in Lame. A lady had a photograph of her great grandfather Hugh McCrory and his wife Minnie. Sadly Hugh actually perished in the shipyard, falling from scaffolding after having a heart attack, and his great granddaughter's eyes filled as she recounted the story.

New York is dotted with evidence of the close



Above: Eddie Cahill, Niall Tóibín, Michael Condon and Dan Gordon

Left: Hugh and Minnie McCrory (just one tale of New York's Ulster-Scots connections)



Ulster-Scots connections. We visited the memorial tomb that stands as a tribute to Ulysses S Grant, the principal author of Union victory during the Civil War. He went on to be 18th president of the United States. Located in Riverside Park in Manhattan, this granite and marble monument is the final resting place of President Grant and his wife, Julia Dent Grant. It is also the second largest mausoleum in the Western Hemisphere. New York was for two years the nation's capital before that honour passed to Philadelphia and eventually to Washington DC. New York's Presidential Palace was built and owned by an Ulster-Scot. The Alexander Macomb House at 39-41 Broadway in Manhattan served as the second Presidential Mansion. Alexander Macomb had been born at Dunturkey, near Ballyclare. The Broadway Mansion was occupied by President George Washington from February 23-August 30 1790.

There are two statues – one at the southern end of City Hall Park and the other in Greeley Square Manhattan to Horace Greeley, founder and editor of the New York Tribune. His mother's name was Woodburn and the family were part of the five-ship exodus of 1718 that

went with Rev James McGregor of Aghadowey and developed the Scotch Irish settlement of Londonderry New Hampshire.

We even managed to wangle a visit to the Brooklyn Navy Yard where the world's first modern ironclad warship the USS Monitor was outfitted and completed. The USS Monitor is most famous for her participation in the Battle of Hampton Roads on March 9 1862, where she fought with the Confederate CSS Virginia. This was the first-ever battle fought between two ironclad warships.

We were able to compare notes and explain we built a few ships too. From Belfast to Brooklyn – from one shipyard to another the journey has been one of discovery and amazement. From such humble beginnings we have influenced and led the world. It has been a privilege to remind and reflect on the legacy laid down and the continuing growth of the Ulster-Scots people.

• **The Boat Factory journey continues and the play is running in London at the Kings Head Theatre from July 23 to August 16. For tickets and details click on <https://kingsheadtheatre.ticketsolve.com/shows/873490532/events>**

What the reviewers said...

"Moving, funny, touching, risky, rude and handsome. Dan Gordon's play has grown into an extraordinary evocation of a city in a century. The many voices of the script carry echoes of other places, other worlds, other epics, but return eventually to the home place and the amazing eloquence of ordinary people living lives of racy, bracing power and great delicacy of skill" –

Damian Smyth, Arts Council of Northern Ireland

"Dan Gordon's brilliant two-man play constructs a picture of boat-building, male friendship, hardship, humour and heroism as carefully as the men they portray built the Titanic" – **Belfast Telegraph**

"Pitch perfect performances...and imaginative staging" – **The Stage**

"A remarkable piece of theatre which pays tribute to the workforce which wove Harland and Wolff's shipyard into the fabric of Belfast life" – **Edinburgh Guide**

"You would be made of stone if you did not respond to Gordon's love letter to the Harland & Wolff shipyard, the yard that dominated the landscape, in every sense, of the Belfast in which he grew up" – **The Times**

Ulster-Scots Festivals 2013

A wide variety of Ulster-Scots events and festivals have been organised for August, September and October.

These events are organised by members of the Ulster-Scots community and are supported financially by the Ulster-Scots Agency.

Full details of all forthcoming events and festivals are available on the Agency's website at www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events. Events and festivals will include a number of cultural traditions of Ulster-Scots including history and heritage, dance, music, poetry, cookery and drama.

We hope everyone enjoys the range of Ulster-Scots activities taking place over the coming months!

August

• Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster-Scots Festival and Highland Games, Ballymoney (Tuesday August 13 to Saturday August 17)

This year the Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster-Scots Festival and Highland Games features a mix of language, culture, history and associated heritage.

Various folk groups will be taking part in the events, along with a plethora of musical bands that will showcase various aspects of the musical cultural from Lambegs, fifes, bagpipes, fluting and accordion to different drumming techniques. Meanwhile workshops will allow further examinations of the traditional instruments being used.

Language and Ulster-Scots poets and writers will be discussed in Ballymoney library and the Ullans Centre. Here the hamely tongue will be heard and the language explored with guest speakers covering the main speaking areas of Donegal and north Antrim. Lectures on different aspects of Ulster-Scots history will be completed by local historian Alex Blair along with museum curators from Ballymoney and Coleraine.

On Saturday August 17, Belford Park in Ballymoney will be transformed into an exciting arena for the annual highland games of the area, along with a hive of activity for all the family to enjoy. Archery, face painters, bouncy castles and cookery demonstrations are just a few of the things which will entertain the whole family at the event.

For more information on the programme of events: visit Facebook; telephone the Ullans Centre on 028 276 68897 or Codie Murray on 07979 743 843.

• The Broadisland Gathering Ulster-Scots Family Festival, Ballycarry (Friday August 30 to Friday September 13)

Hosted by Ballycarry Community Association the Broadisland Gathering Ulster-Scots Family Festival will include Ulster-Scots concerts, pageantry and parades, village fair, military vehicle display, a 1798 historical bus tour from Ballycarry

to Antrim, a table quiz, a tribute evening to James Orr and lots more.

The Ulster-Scots concert will include performances by traditional Ulster-Scots group Stonewall, Ulster-Scots Experience, Drum Accordion Band, Major Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band and Burning Bush Fife and Drum.

Festival programme:

August 30 - Historical bus tour from Ballycarry to Antrim

September 2 - A Celebration of Orr

September 3, 4 & 5 - Ulster Covenant exhibition

September 4 & 5 - Historical talks

September 6 - Ulster-Scots Concert

September 7 - Main festival day

September 13 - An evening discussing

Ulster-Scots with Tim McGarry

For further information visit www.ballycarrycommunity.co.uk or telephone the festival office on (028) 9337 2819.

• Rural Ructions, Maghera (Friday August 2 and Saturday August 3)

Hosted by Curragh Hall Development Association, this event will promote the cultural traditions of Ulster-Scots in the Maghera area incorporating Ulster-Scots music and highland games into the programme of activity.

On the Friday, an Ulster-Scots concert will be held in the marquee in the hall grounds at Curragh from 7.30pm to 10.45pm.

Entertainment will be provided by the Alistair Scott Ceilidh Band (who will perform Ulster-Scots folk music and traditional Scottish music), Clayre McKinney (who will perform highland and country dancing) and Sophie Shiels performing a number of Scottish songs. Compere for the evening will be Ian Coulter.

On the Saturday there will be highland games, a fun day and musical entertainment provided by Maghera Musical Appreciation Society, piper Gary Dempsey, Scottish singer Pamela Bolton, Cranny Pipe Band and Dromore Pipe Band. For further information contact George Shiels on 028 7964 2322.



September

• Ulster-Scots Musical Celebration, Desertmartin, Magherafelt

Hosted by Loughinsholin Cultural Music Group, the Ulster-Scots Musical Celebration will incorporate Ulster-Scots history, language and music.

The first evening, Monday September 2 at 7.30pm in Desertmartin Orange Hall, will be dedicated to Ulster-Scots history. Traditional Ulster and Scottish music will also be provided by Bann Valley Keynotes and Eden Accordion Band Ballymoney.

Then on Wednesday September 4 at 7.30pm in Desertmartin Orange Hall, the programme will be dedicated to the Ulster-Scots language with lectures, readings, storytelling, poems and recitals taking place.

The final evening, Thursday September 5 at 7.30pm in Desertmartin Parish Church Hall, will be an evening of traditional Ulster-Scots music with Alistair Scott Ceilidh Band, 1147ers, Clare McKinney and Castledawson Flute Band.

For further information contact Anne Forde on 07841 102 016.

• Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival,

Bushmills (September 20-22)

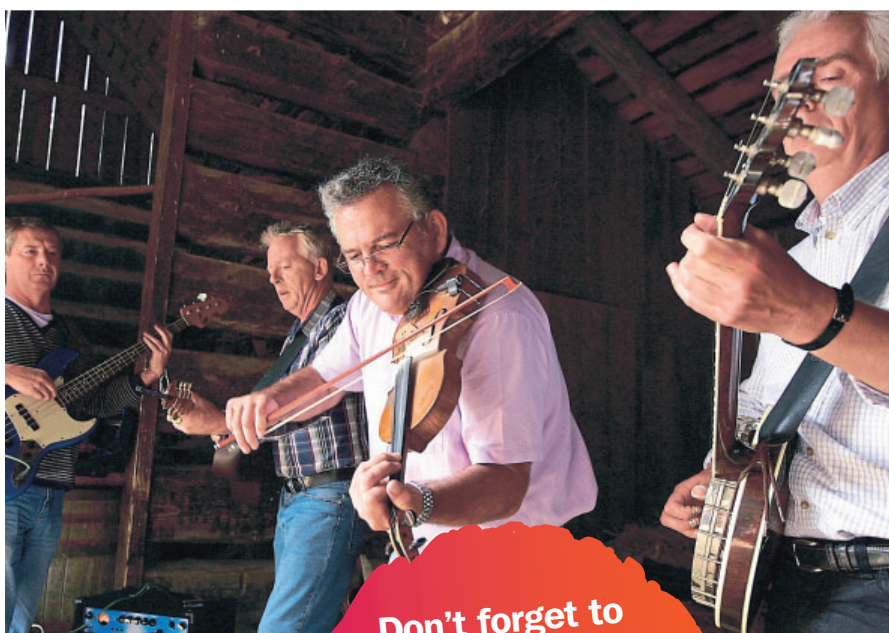
Hosted by Bushmills Traders Association, the Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival will celebrate the rich culture, heritage and produce of the local Bushmills area and include a programme of music dance, storytelling, drama, food and literature. Entertainment will be provided by Ulster-Scots Folk group Scad the Beggar, Ulster-Scot Experience, Risin' Stour, Causeway Flute Band, Bannside Fife and Lambeg Drumming Club and Topp Pipe Band.

For further information contact Sharon McKillop at shrlmck@aol.com

• Newry and Mourne Ulster-Scots Festival, Newry, Warrenpoint and Donaghmore (September 20 & 21)

On Friday September 20 entertainment will be





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Ulster-Scots
photography
competition - see
page 16 for more
details

provided by Finnard Highland Dancers, Annahinchigo Pipe Band, Thistledown Ulster-Scots Dancers, Laura Spence (Reivers Poet) and Ulster-Scots traditional group, Risin' Stour. The venue is Newry Orange Hall and the programme of entertainment starts at 7.30 pm. On the Saturday afternoon entertainment will be provided by Gail and Ben Graham on pipes and drums, Finnard Highland Dancers, Hunter Moore Melody Flute Band, Ballymageough Accordion Band and Andrew Mattison will give a talk on the Border Reivers. The venue is Warrenpoint Orange Hall and the programme of entertainment starts at 2pm.

On Saturday night there will be an exhibition on the Ulster Covenant, Lambeg Drumming Club LOL 1364, South Down Defenders Flute Band, Donaghmore Accordion Band and a talk on the Ulster Covenant by Samuel Taylor.

The venue is Ranton Memorial Orange Hall, Donaghmore and the programme of entertainment starts at 6.30pm.

For more information contact William Mitchell on 07768 486 977 or email william@ballykeel38.wanadoo.co.uk.

• Loughshore Ulster-Scots Festival, Belfast (September 21-27)

Duncairn Ulster-Scots Society is hosting the Loughshore Ulster-Scots Festival in north Belfast, which will include Ulster-Scots events, exhibitions, musical performances by traditional Ulster-Scots groups and a series of talks on various subjects including Titanic tartan, Ulster-Scots roots, Clifton Street graveyard and Ulster-Scots shipbuilders. There will also be a tartan tea dance and an Ulster-Scots exhibition.

For further information contact Muriel Bowyer on 028 9029 7191 or email mbowyer1@yahoo.co.uk.

October

• Scotch Harvest Festival, Cloughey (October 11 & 12)

Hosted by Cloughey Presbyterian Church the Scotch Harvest Festival will include an exhibition of antique agricultural machinery and performances by local Ulster-Scots musicians: Newtownfolk, Kirkistown Pipe Band, Junior Lambeg tuition, piping by Andy McGregor, Brunswick Accordion Band and Newtownards CLB. Dancing displays will be provided by The Kelly Forsythe Highland Dancers and Greyabbey Junior Highland Dancers. In addition to the music and dance there will be Ulster-Scots storytelling, Junior Ulster-Scots hymns and airs and traditional food making. On Friday October 11 the Scotch Harvest exhibition opens at 4pm (entry £2) and an Ulster-Scots Concert runs from 7pm to 10pm (entry £5.00). Entry to the exhibition is free with purchase of concert tickets. On the Saturday the exhibition is open from 11am to 5pm and the festival runs from noon to 4.15pm (entry £2). For further information contact Richard

Smith on 07739 004 615 or email clougheyscotchharvest@yahoo.co.uk.

• Roe Valley International Folk Festival, Limavady and surrounding area (October 16-21)

The Roe Valley Folk Festival has become one of the premier music events in the north west, and this year again the Ulster-Scots cultural traditions will be promoted through music, song, dance and verse. On Saturday October 19 there will be a display of outdoor activities in Limavady town centre and over the six days there will be performances by Haggerdash from Lanarkshire, Dave Gibb from Wanlockhead in Galloway, Life of Reilly from Wigtownshire and Rudeigin from Larkhall, South Glasgow. They will be joined by Sollas Highland Dancers, Ardinariff Marching Band, Raphoe Country Dance and a number of pipers. For further information contact George Murphy on 028 7774 0107 or 07841 560 742.



Details of all of the above Ulster-Scots festivals are also available on the Agency's website
www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events

Sarah Leech Summer School makes history

By Celine McGlynn

The first Sarah Leech Summer School organised by the 4 Brigs Literary Group at the Inishowen Gateway Hotel in Buncrana in June was history in the making.

"It's ground breaking and it's pushing the boundaries," the literary group's chairman Jim Devenney said.

"Sarah Leech was the only female weaver poet of the early 17th century, and we are extremely fortunate that the weaver poets recorded their life events in their native tongue," he added.

Jim Millar of the Ulster-Scots Agency, which helped fund the summer school, said: "I believe this will be the start of something very significant and hopefully long-lasting. This isn't just about poetry. It's about a lot of other things. I look forward to hearing much more about Sarah Leech and indeed about the 4 Brigs Literary Group."

Dr Ian Adamson, who is fluent in 14 languages, was the keynote speaker at the summer school.

In a wide-ranging talk on Ulster-Scots culture and heritage, he spoke of the influence of his grandmothers, Irish folklore, history and culture.

"What is culture? Culture is the total range of activities and ideas of a group of people with shared traditions, which is transmitted and reinforced by members of that group. That is our culture."

"Donegal is a special place. It does have this interlinkage between the

“ Donegal is a special place. It does have this interlinkage between the Ulster-Scots language, the English language and Ulster Gaelic

- Dr Ian Adamson

Ulster-Scots language, the English language and Ulster Gaelic. We never had any feelings of animosity that you often find within the context of Northern Ireland. We never ever had that, ever in our lives," he said. Dinny McGinley TD welcomed the initiative, adding: "We have an opportunity of celebrating the contribution of Ulster-Scots to Ireland, to Ulster, to Donegal and to the world."

The Letterkenny Caledonian Pipe Band entertained the audience on the opening night.

On Saturday, Kathryn Daily, Dr Liam Campbell and Patricia Morris facilitated short story, poetry and song-writing workshops respectively.

A visual presentation of Sarah Leech and her poetical works by Dr Pauline Holland explained the poets thought processes, her dissatisfaction with her public image and examined a number of her poems.

Dr John Mouldon, Liam Logan, Dr Ian Adamson and Jim Devenney contributed to the guest panel

discussion on Saturday entitled: *The Impact of the Scottish Plantation and Subsequent Conversion of Cultures*.

Sunday's bus tour took in early historical sites and settlements in the Laggan and told the story of the flax industry. Also included was a visit to the Stewarts' homesteads and a viaduct they constructed across the Swilly.

"It sits there now in its sombre silence where the tide ebbs and flows," said Jim Devenney.

The tour finished with a trip to Glenveagh featuring the Sollar Dancers from Bready.

House of Books, Ballybofey, had an extensive collection of rare and antiquarian book on display for the duration of the Summer School. Also on display was the Treasure Each Voice Exhibition by the Fiach Art Circle.

Celine McGlynn
(donegalthevoice@eircom.net) is
editor of the *Finn Valley Voice*
(www.finnvalleyvoice.com)



Jacqui Reed presents Dinny McGinley TD with a copy of Sarah Leech *The Ulster-Scots Poetess of Raphoe Co Donegal*



Dr John Mouldon, Liam Logan (BBC) and Jim Devenney (chairman of 4 Brigs Literary Group) at the guest panel discussion *The Impact of the Scottish Plantation and Subsequent Conversion of Cultures*



A section of crowd who participated in the Ulster-Scots Historical Tour as part of the Sarah Leech Summer School are pictured at the Francis Makemie Meeting House in Ramelton, Co Donegal

Walled City Tattoo's fourth night announced

Such has been the rush for tickets for this summer's Walled City Tattoo in Derry-Londonderry that the organisers have added a fourth night.

The spectacular theatrical event, which will be staged on Ebrington Square as part of the programme for the UK City of Culture and supported by the Ulster-Scots Agency, will now run from Wednesday 28 to Saturday 31 August.

Rehearsals began back in May for the first-ever Tattoo to be staged in Ireland.

Some 150 dancers from across Northern Ireland, ranging in age from five to 28, will take part in the production. A total of 33 Highland and Irish dance schools are represented, and the bringing together of these two distinct styles of dancing will contribute to creating a vivid reflection of our rich history and culture in the show.

The dancers make up only a small proportion of the 500-strong cast of performers from Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Republic of Ireland, Switzerland, Tanzania, Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK.

The show will combine the pomp, ceremony and grandeur of traditional Tattoo events with a special Derry~Londonderry twist and bring together an unforgettable cast of musicians, dancers and actors to entertain the 16,000-strong audience in a production that will be unlike anything ever seen in Northern Ireland.

Highland dance teacher and European choreography champion Georgina Kee holds a first class BA Hons in dance, and is one of the choreographers for the event.

She has been helping develop the programme for the Tattoo for 18 months and was influential in Sollus Cultural Promotions being involved in the bid to secure the accolade of UK City of Culture.

Georgina has performed at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo five times, performing in front of a 220,000 strong audience over 28 shows in August each year, and in 2011 she co-ordinated the first ever dance troupe from Northern Ireland and the Republic to perform there.

Arlene McLaughlin, Irish dance teacher and world dancing champion, is also a choreographer for the Tattoo. She has won the Ulster title for eight consecutive years and the World crown six times.

Arlene has performed professionally in the UK and Ireland as well as internationally, performing for the Irish Ambassador in New Delhi in India and at the Festivals de Martigues in France.

She has also trained with the renowned 'Riverdance' company and is dance director of the Siamsa Gael troupe in Derry.

Brona Jackson from the city is the third member of the choreography team and also holds a BA Hons in Dance. She has performed at many major events including being one of only two dancers from Northern Ireland to perform at the Cultural Olympiad in London as part of the 2012 Olympic celebrations.

Brona specialises in more modern dance forms such as hip hop, contemporary and jive.



INFORMATION

The Walled City Tattoo, Ebrington Square, Derry~Londonderry
Wednesday August 28 – Saturday August 31 at 8.45pm

Tickets from £18.50

For more information visit www.walledcitytattoo.com

To book visit www.millenniumforum.co.uk or call (028) 7126 4455.

Having her onboard adds to the cocktail of diversity and energy that will be seen at the event in August.

Georgina said: "Bringing together so much wonderful talent from across the country for a Tattoo of this magnitude in my home city is a dream come true."

Speaking of the collaboration Arlene added: "What is really unusual and exciting about the dancing in this event is the two disciplines and two cultures coming together to complement each other - it isn't something you normally get to see."

"Although there are similarities there are also some major differences including our style, traditional costume, music and the instruments we dance to."

A showcase of international and local talent, the Walled City Tattoo will give audiences the chance to watch the world's leading drums corps, Top Secret from Switzerland, perform their phenomenal routine as part of a 90-minute production. The event's line-up also features the Crossed-Swords Pipe Band, Afrikan Warriors, Sontas, brass and melody flute bands and highland and Irish dancers. The ever-popular age old tradition of the massed pipes and drums will be performed comprising a spectacle of over 100 pipers and drummers from counties Tyrone, Donegal, Fermanagh, Londonderry, as well as pipe bands from Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Germany.

CHARLIE 'THA POOCHER' RANNALS



Moss time in Donegal

Naw sae lang syne A wus aff karrantin roon tha wiles o Coonty Donegal oot in tha Muckish Muntin, an A saa tae mae delicht a sicht that is mair nir rare noo-a-deys. A wus weel tane whun A saa folk a ower a hale moss an them aa daein somethin that tuk mae baak tae whun a wus a wee bit wean in North Entrim. There wur hale families frae wee bit weans tae oul yins as weel, some cuttin peats, some forkin, some wheelin tha lang hanneled peat borra an ithers futtin peats an yins jest sittin at a sup o tay. Tha thing that plaased me sae mich wus that they wur a usin tha peat spaid tae cut wae, nae brute o a machine tearin a in front o it, but jest guid folk oot tae get a wunter's firin an naw feart tae loose swet tae get it.

Noo afore A stert rantin on aboot peat cuttin A want tae maak it clear tae aa consarned that As a a wean A wus in tha moss but A niver cut a peat wae a spaid ir onthin else forbye.

Am sure maist folk readin mae scrievin wud niver hae saa a peat fire but whun A wus growin up it wus tha only wye heatin a cottar hoose in tha airt wur A leeved. Frae Aister time richt through tae whun tha trees sterted tae loos thaur leaves tha hoose wud hae bane fu o moss taak. No afore tha hale thing sterted ye had tae gae aff tae whaiver owned tha moss an try an get a peat bank aff him. It wusnae for naethin ye onnerstan ye had tae pye for it ivery year. Nixt ye wud hae pared tha bank taakin tha scra aff tae get doon tha guid peat. Frae then on ye wud hae hard taak aboot dae ye think tha weaather wull houl, whuther tha rodden wus saft, if tha peats wur guid blak peats, ir broon an naw jest as guid for burnin an sae on.

Noo tha cuttin doon in Donegal as far as A saa wus maistly dane bae tha unnerfit wye, roon aboot North Entrim it wus dane maistly bae breestin. Whun ye had yer cuttin dane it wus jest tha stert o tha hale jab, ye had tae let tha peats dry tae they got a skin on them, then they wur kassled an whiles pit intae rickles afore ye iver thocht aboot gettin them hame, some yins wud hae baaged them an ithers dinnae. Tha waather wus tha hale secret o whuther ye got them hame ava ir naw. Ye see if ye had a bad simmer ye cud hae loast iverythin. But onywee as a wean A mine o mae feyther gettin tha len o a tractor tae bring hame peats roon aboot the hinnerenn o Aagist an ye cud hae saa tha delicht in mae mither's face whun she knoad that wae wur sure o a guid wunter's firin. Ach mann dear, am rinnin aff wae maesel aboot somethin an naethin but baak then it wus yin o tha maist velued things a familie cud hae, a guid peat staak at tha enn o tha hoose. Sae mann, A hope ye kan see why A wus gled that A tuk tha noshun tae taak a jaunt ower through tha Muckish Muntins an bring baak happy memories in tha place A lake tae caa tha lan o peat.

Charlie 'The Poocher' Rannals July 2013.

Countdown is on to the Maiden City Festival

The biggest ever Maiden City Festival takes place from August 3-10, one of the key events of the 2013 UK City of Culture programme.

And the Ulster-Scots Agency will be making an important contribution to the event. It all kicks off on August 3 with a Bluegrass & Folk weekend, with over a dozen bands playing over two days, including a Saturday evening concert featuring the great sound of the Down & Out Bluegrass Band among others. There will be a strong emphasis on history and drama throughout the week, with the siege story being told in St Columb's Cathedral each day in a short five-part drama. There will also be a demonstration of siege guns and cannons at the Memorial Hall while siege characters will feature around the Walls. A series of short plays will take place between Monday 5 and Wednesday 7, followed by a presentation and discussion looking at the Presbyterian and Protestant story of Londonderry since the Siege, migration and movement. The first drama of the week features tales of Presbyterians who left for the New World in 1715, with Paddy Fitzgerald of the Ulster American Folk Park as guest speaker. There will also be a drama for the 19th century and a third one bringing the story up to date. Meanwhile the 10th Maiden City Scottish Highland dance competition takes place on Wednesday 7 at the Memorial Hall. Music plays a big part in the festival. The most ambitious Ulster-Scots event this year will be the performance of a new arrangement for flute of Shaun Davey's Relief of Derry Symphony, bringing together premier flute bands of the city with classical and folk artists. Performances on August 8 and 9 will be held in St Columb's Cathedral featuring the Churchill, Hamilton and William King flute bands along with the classical Festive Flutes and Marcas O'Murchu folk flute (with the voice of Doreen Curran). The festival continues its lunchtime programme in nine cafes within and around the Walls – a choice of over 40 performers over five days. New sounds and favourites returning will make for a diverse lunchtime Culture Bite menu – links to all the performing bands will be on the website. There will be tea dances Monday to Thursday, comic cabaret with William Caufield, late night



Mel Orriss (who is arranging for flute Shaun Davey's Relief of Derry Symphony) leads an early rehearsal by the Churchill and Hamilton flute bands. The Relief of Derry Symphony will be performed in St Columb's Cathedral on August 8 and 9 as part of the Maiden City Festival 2013 UK City of Culture programme. Also performing will be members of the William King Flute Band, Festive Flutes, Marcas O'Murchu and singer Doreen Curran

dancing to Risky Business, a big quiz, late night entertainment in the Memorial Hall, and lots more.

The final event of the 2013 Maiden City Festival week is the Relief of Londonderry Pageant taking place at Carlisle Roundabout on Saturday August 10 - immediately before the start of the main parade, part of the 324th Annual Commemoration of the Relief of Derry. The Maiden City Festival website - www.maidencityfestival.com - has full details of this year's exciting week of events, along with ticketing information. Download the new Android APP Siege Heroes Trail from GooglePlay to guide you around the walls – or download a map from www.siegeheroestrail.com. Build a 2013 day out in Londonderry to take in the drama, the music and the fun of the 2013 Maiden City Festival.

NEWS & EVENTS

City of Culture 2013 – Island Voices Lecture Series

Derry City Council's autumn lecture series 'Island Voices' explores the languages of English, Irish and Ulster-Scots within the context of our shared cultural identity. The 'Island Voices' lecture series will run from Sunday September 1 to Saturday November 30 at the Tower Museum and will feature one lecture each month followed by an opportunity for discussion and debate. Visit www.cityofculture2013.com for further information.

Experience Ulster-Scots

Come along and join us at one of the many Ulster-Scots events taking place this summer! Visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events for details.

Plantation of Ulster study



Budding historians at Lisneal College in Londonderry learn about the Plantation of Ulster as part of their KS3 history programme of study. Thanks to a generous donation of books by the Ulster-Scots Agency, students were able to gain a more thorough understanding of the period. The books contained detailed information on areas such as shipping manifests, settlement maps and even muster rolls from the period. This knowledge will help students gain a more complete picture of the plantation and the logistics involved in settlement of Ulster.

Ulster-Scots Place to visit



Carnfunnock Country Park - steeped in Ulster-Scots heritage

Carnfunnock Country Park is situated just 3.5 miles north of Larne town and is the July Ulster-Scots 'Place to Visit'.

Today Carnfunnock Country Park is a place of recreation, but for nearly 150 years it was home to a series of interesting Ulster-Scots families, several of whom played a huge role in the development of the town of Larne. Originally, the site contained two large houses in their own grounds, Cairncastle Lodge (later renamed Carnfunnock); and Seaview (later renamed Cairndhu). Captain William Agnew obtained his portion of the site from the Marquis of Donegal in 1823. Originally from Wigtownshire in Scotland, the Agnews had lived at nearby Kilwaughter Castle for several generations. Captain Agnew invested in several infrastructure projects in the area, including the development of Larne Harbour, which was inherited on his death by his son. James Agnew continued to invest in the Harbour and also built Cairncastle Lodge in 1839. James Agnew fell on hard times and sold his land, including Cairncastle Lodge and Larne Harbour to James Chaine of Ballycraig, in 1865. Chaine transformed the fortunes of the Harbour, creating railway links to Ballyclare and Ballymena; and establishing the Larne to Stranraer ferry service in 1872. James Chaine also served as MP for Antrim; and following his premature death, the people of Larne paid for the building of the Chaine Memorial Tower in his memory. James Chaine's estate was inherited by his son William, who managed the Harbour and

COMPETITION

WIN a season parking pass for Carnfunnock Country Park.

We have two season parking passes for Carnfunnock Country Park to give away. A season pass will provide free parking at the park until November 2013.

For your chance to win email competition@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk with 'Parking Pass' in the subject line, providing your name and address.

Closing date: Monday August 19.

built up sizeable business interests, including directorships with the Northern Counties Railway, York Street Flax Spinning Company and the Belfast Bank. Like his father, William Chaine was heavily involved in civic life, serving as a magistrate and High Sheriff of County Antrim. During the Ulster Crisis, he also served as commandant of the Larne UVF. After his death, Cairncastle Lodge was sold to Sir Thomas Dixon (owner of neighbouring Seaview/Cairndhu) in 1938. The other big house on the site, Seaview, was built in the 1830s by Charles Dawson Stewart. His grandson, James Wilson Agnew, emigrated to Australia in 1839 and became Premier of Tasmania. The house remained in the family until 1880, when it was sold to Mr Stewart Clark, who renamed it Cairndhu. Stewart Clark was an immensely wealthy

Scottish industrialist, part of the Clark textiles dynasty of Paisley. He purchased Cairndhu as a holiday home so that his family would have a summer residence away from their main home, Dundas Castle in Linlithgowshire and they travelled from Scotland to Ulster on the family yacht. Stewart Clark served as Deputy Lieutenant for both County Antrim and Renfrewshire, as well as serving as MP for Paisley. In 1918, Cairndhu was sold to Sir Thomas and Lady Edith Dixon, who both had long family associations with the town. Sir Thomas' grandfather was a substantial businessman in the town, while his father was Sir Daniel Dixon, who served as both the first Lord Mayor of Belfast and MP for North Belfast. Lady Edith was the daughter of Stewart Clark of Paisley and the granddaughter of another

Ulster-Scot, John Smiley, whose family owned the Northern Whig newspaper. After his father's death, Sir Thomas became head of the family's timber firm, Thomas Dixon and Sons of Larne; and he also owned the Lord Line Shipping Company. Extensively involved in public life, Sir Thomas served variously as High Sheriff of Counties Antrim and Down; Lord Lieutenant of Belfast; and as a member of the Northern Ireland Senate. He also served as the first Mayor of Larne, following the grant of Borough status to the town in 1939. After William Chaine's death, Sir Thomas purchased Cairncastle Lodge in 1937 and demolished the house, which was in a state of disrepair. He and his wife supported many charitable causes in Larne and beyond. In 1947 the Dixons sold Cairndhu to Larne Council, who subsequently established the Sir Thomas and Lady Edith Dixon Hospital, which operated there until 1986. Although resident at Wilmont House in Belfast, the Dixons retained some of their Larne property and built a chalet bungalow on the former site of Cairncastle Lodge, which became known as Carnfunnock House, to retain their association with the area. Sir Thomas died in 1950. Lady Edith sold Carnfunnock House and almost 500 acres to Larne Council in 1956, but was allowed to retain the chalet bungalow as her summer residence until her death in 1964. The Council subsequently leased Carnfunnock House to the Lions Club as a holiday home and it remains in use to this day.

SUMMER BAND PROGRAMME



Each Sunday until the end of August a variety of bands will perform in the Walled Garden amphitheatre at Carnfunnock Country Park. The remainder of this summer's programme is as follows:

- **July 28** - Ballyduff Silver (2.30-3.30pm) and Riada Concert Group (3.30-4.30pm).
- **August 4** - Dummigans Accordion (2.30-3.30pm) and C.W.A. Brass (3.30-4.30pm).
- **August 11** - Magheramorne Silver (2.30-3.30pm) and Ormeau Concert (3.30-4.30pm).
- **August 18** - Dummigans Accordion (2.30-3.30pm) and Kellswater Flute (3.30-4.30pm).
- **August 25** - East Antrim Seniors Accordion (2-3pm), 3rd Carrick Silver (3-4pm) and Killyglen Accordion (4-5pm).

INFORMATION

Larne Borough Council is pleased to announce that there is now a free iPhone and android app to keep up to date with everything happening at Carnfunnock Country Park. Go to iTunes or Play Store and download now. Or visit www.facebook.com/CarnfunnockCountryPark and access the app's QR codes.

Address: Carnfunnock Country Park, Coast Road, Larne, County Antrim, BT40 2QG

Telephone: 028 2827 0541 (Country Park Office) or 028 2826 0088 (Larne Tourist Information Centre)
Email: carnfunnock@larne.gov.uk
Website: www.carnfunnock.co.uk

RECIPESCooking with **Judith McLoughlin****Boozy Bushmills truffle Cheesecake**

*Irish whiskey truffle
cheesecake with Irish cream
and a chocolate ganache*

The story:

Summer again and we all need a superb dessert option to impress our friends with at garden parties, right? This rather indulgent and super rich cheesecake is a winner. Always a really popular dessert on my catering menu with the Ulster kitchen, once you read through the list of ingredients you will see why.

The decadent and splendid combinations of Irish whiskey truffle cream with a chocolate ganache, rich Irish cream and fresh raspberry sauce are the stuff of legends. Bring this delight to any summer garden party or event and you will be the talk of the town and the envy of all!

*How to make it:*

1. To begin, melt the butter and combine with the digestive biscuit cookie crumbs, or Graham cracker crumbs. Then press the mixture into the base of a 8" spring form pan.
2. In a double boiler melt the chocolate and butter over low heat. Allow to cool slightly.
3. Beat the cream cheese and sugar stopping to scrape down the sides of the bowl and then add chocolate mixture and Irish whiskey.
4. In a clean bowl beat whipping cream and then fold in to chocolate mixture.
5. Pour filling on top of cookie base. Allow at least 45 minutes for the cheesecake to set in the refrigerator.
6. Prepare Irish Cream layer by beating the cream cheese with powdered sugar then gradually add the heavy whipping cream and the Irish Cream.
7. Pour over chocolate layer. Allow to set in refrigerator for 45 minutes.
8. Prepare chocolate ganache layer by melting the chocolate and cream in a double boiler. Allow to cool slightly before pouring over cheesecake.
9. Refrigerate until ready to slice and serve.

(For the base)

- 8 oz. (2 cups) crushed digestive biscuit (or Graham crackers)
- 4 oz. (½ cup) butter

(For the Irish whiskey truffle layer)

- 24 oz. (4 cups) semi sweet chocolate chips

- 4 oz. (½ cup) butter
- 1 lb. cream cheese
- 2 oz. (6 tbsp) powdered sugar (sifted)
- ½ pint (1 cup) heavy whipping cream
- 4 tbsp. (¼ cup) Irish whiskey

(For the Irish cream Layer)

- 8 oz. cream cheese

- 5 ½ oz. (1 cup) powdered sugar
- 6 fluid oz. (¾ cup) heavy whipping cream
- 2 tbsp Irish Cream liquor

(For the chocolate ganache layer)

- 5 oz (¾ cup) quality milk chocolate
- 2 fluid oz (¼ cup) heavy whipping cream

Tapestry project at Kilkeel Primary School

Year five pupils at Kilkeel Primary School have completed a unique tapestry project depicting the history of the Ulster-Scots community in the Mourne area.

It was borne from an idea by school principal Stephen Cherry, who expressed a desire to create an Ulster-Scots art project to be overseen by the art teacher Mrs Joan McBride and her P5 pupils. Ulster-Scots Agency community development officer Maynard Hanna visited Kilkeel PS and told P5 pupils the story of the Scots border peoples of the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries and their subsequent Mourne settlement.



Showing a Scots/Reivers Settlement in Mourne

To complement his talks, Andrew Mattison also visited the class and demonstrated the various forms of weaponry and farming tools associated with the Reivers as well as the clothing they would have worn during that

particular time period. Belfast artist David 'Dee' Graig also visited the school to assist pupils with artwork guidance. After a number of weeks of determined and skilful work, the finished tapestry went on

display in the school assembly hall, allowing students' families and visitors to better understand an important aspect of Mourne folk history.

Detailing Reivers' decision to leave Scotland's Lowlands and The Debatable Lands



Agency launches Belfast Covenant Trail

At the end of May, a new trail map highlighting Belfast's connections with the Ulster Covenant story was launched by the Lord Mayor, Cllr Gavin Robinson.

The new trail map tells the story of the people and places of the

Covenant in their Ulster-Scots context. Cllr Robinson said: "I am delighted to launch this new trail map which highlights a highly important time in our history and makes an important contribution to cultural diversity in our city."

Agency chief executive, Ian Crozier said: "I am delighted that we have been

able to launch our Belfast Covenant Trail in the City Hall where those momentous events happened in 1912."

Copies of the Belfast Covenant Trail maps are free and are available from the Ulster-Scots Visitor and Information Centre at 68-72 Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT2 7BB (open Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm).



Ian Crozier, chief executive of the Ulster-Scots Agency presents Lord Mayor Gavin Robinson with the Belfast Covenant Trail Map, beside the Covenant Table where Sir Edward Carson signed in 1912.

Ulster Covenant Artwork...

To mark the centenary of the signing of the Ulster Covenant, the Ulster-Scots Agency commissioned a number of pieces of Ulster Covenant artwork to distribute to venues where the Covenant was signed in 1912.

The Ulster-Scots Agency is inviting venues where the Ulster Covenant was signed, which have not already registered to receive one of the framed pieces of artwork to email info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk or alternatively, complete the following form and return it to Catriona Holmes, Ulster-Scots Agency, 68-72 Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT2 7BB by Friday August 30, 2013.

ULSTER COVENANT ARTWORK PROFORMA

Name of Venue: _____

Address of Venue: _____

On behalf of the above named venue,

I _____ [insert name]
can confirm that we wish to receive a free Ulster Covenant Centenary artwork from the Ulster-Scots Agency for display in our premises.

(Signature) _____

(Position) _____

Belfast Culture Night 2013...



The Ulster-Scots Agency is inviting you for a brilliant night's crack at Belfast Culture Night on Friday September 20.

The event provides free arts and cultural events throughout the city for one night only. We will be putting on a top Scottish Ceilidh band at one of the Cathedral Quarter venues. Last year more than 200 organisations took part, with over 30,000 people coming into the city centre to enjoy the celebrations in

what will be a game-changing night of music, art, theatre, dance, drama, comedy and more.

"Come down and try your hand a variety of dances on Culture Night. You don't need to know the steps just be willing to participate" said Catriona Holmes of the Ulster-Scots Agency. For more information about Belfast Culture Night visit www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events/471/culture-night or to view the full programme visit www.culturenightbelfast.com.

FRIDAY
20th
SEPTEMBER



WEANS' WURLD

Kids rule at Carnfunnock!

If you're looking for a fun place to go this summer, you'll love **Carnfunnock Country Park** near Larne. It has all kinds of things for kids to enjoy, from mini cars, a train and trampolines to a life-sized ship!

The whole family will have a fantastic day out at Carnfunnock (it's this issue's 'Ulster-Scots Place to Visit'), whether they want to burn off some energy or simply relax and admire the gardens.

The park is full of fun activities, including:

- Maritime outdoor adventure playground with two magnificent custom built ships
- Activity Centre with putting green, mini cars and trampolines
- Facetastic professional face painting and colourful glitter tattoos
- Family Fun Zone with 18 hole mini

golf, a miniature railway, bungee run, WOW balls, laser clay shooting and remote control boats and trucks

- Nine-hole par 3 golf course
 - Driving range
 - Maze sculptured in the shape of Northern Ireland
 - Walled Garden
 - Walking trails through the countryside, woods and shoreline
- Charges apply for certain attractions and activities and parking charges apply at various periods of the year.

Notice Nature Summer Club 2013

Are you aged 8 to 11 years old? Would you like to be real nature ranger? Discover the wild side of Carnfunnock by taking part in fun nature based activities. The Notice Nature Club will run from 10am until 3pm over three days - Wednesday July 31 to Friday August 2. The club costs £18 for the three-day session.

Application forms are available from Carnfunnock Country Park with places allocated on a first come first served basis. Booking is essential as places are limited.

All those attending must wear appropriate clothing and footwear and bring a packed lunch.

Teddy's Big Day Out 2013

The annual Teddy's Big Day Out will take place on Saturday August 24 from 2pm - 5pm in the Activity Centre covered BBQ area.

Bring your bear along for an afternoon filled with family fun including teddy treasure hunts, competitions and much more. You'll be able to dance the afternoon away in our Teddy Bear Disco and if you're lucky, you'll even get a chance to meet Bubbles, the BIG bear who puts the 'fun' in Carnfunnock!

Entry costs £2.50 and all children must be accompanied by an adult.



For full details about Carnfunnock Country Park's activities and events visit www.carnfunnock.co.uk or telephone **028 2827 0541**.

the **Ulster-Scot**
COMPETITIONSend us your pics
for a prize!

Entries are now open for the Ulster-Scots Photography Competition

The Ulster-Scots Agency is running a **photography competition** – we are inviting all budding photographers out there (young and the not so young!) to send in photographs taken at any of the Ulster-Scots events or festivals that are taking place over the coming weeks. Maybe you are going to one of the festivals mentioned on pages 8 & 9, the **Maiden City Tattoo** (page 12), **The Forgatherin** (page 16) or one of the weekly events at **Cockle Row Cottages** (page 3) or **Wallace Park** in Lisburn (page 16)? If so, why not take your camera along and enter our competition?

One overall winner and ten runners up will be selected by a panel of judges and all 11 photographs will be put on display in the Ulster-Scots Information and Visitor Centre. The overall winning photograph will be framed for permanent display in the Agency's office. Our overall winner will also receive a framed copy of their photograph.

For your chance to win email competition@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk attaching your photograph with 'Photography' in the subject line, providing your name, address and a brief description of your photograph including the event name, date and location.

Closing date: Monday August 19.

Park Life at
Wallace Park

The Ulster-Scots Agency is working in partnership with Lisburn City Council to facilitate a series of musical performances in Wallace Park.

The series continues each Sunday from 3pm to 4.30pm during the summer months, and the bands taking part in the coming weeks are as follows:

- July 28 - Magheragall Pipe
- August 4 - Harry Ferguson Memorial Pipe
- August 11 - Dynamic Brass
- August 18 - Lisburn Young Defenders Flute
- August 25 - Bailiesmills Accordion
- September 1 - Magheragall Pipe

For more information contact Leisure Services at Lisburn City Council on 028 9250 9558 or visit www.visitlisburn.com

Get set for family
fun in Lisburn at
the Forgatherin

The Ulster-Scots Agency is working in partnership with Lisburn City Council by staging a one-off large scale event called The Forgatherin.

The event on Saturday August 10 in Wallace Park (2pm-5pm), which is free to attend, will showcase the culture, heritage and traditions of Ulster-Scots with a selection of musical and dance performances, storytelling and language sessions, a street art workshop 'Our Heritage' and craft demonstrations.

As well as the programme of Ulster-Scots entertainment, there will be a variety of family orientated activities available including a children's fun zone,

face painting, Wheelworks Art Cart and balloon modelling. The event is being organised to coincide with the World Police & Fire Games, which will run from August 1 to 10, attracting international visitors to Northern Ireland.

The Forgatherin is aimed not only at the international visitors, but also at people in the local area, across Northern Ireland and indeed the Republic of Ireland.

• **For more information contact Lisburn Tourist information Centre on 028 9266 0038 or visit www.visitlisburn.com or www.ulsterscotsagency.com/events.**

