Ealaíona agus Cultúr
Clár ama an Earraigh
Arts & Culture Winter-Spring Programme

INSIDE:
NEIL DELAMERE
THE 4 OF US
GIVE MY HEAD PEACE
Welcome to the New Year, new season edition of the Arts, Culture and Museum programme for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. This brochure contains live performances, classes, workshops, talks, exhibitions and special events across the district from January – April.

It is packed full of entertainment events for the entire family over the winter / spring months. It highlights the Council’s commitment to ensuring that we offer all who live, work and visit the district as many opportunities as possible to engage with arts and culture.

Stella Sings Ella

2017 is the centenary of Ella Fitzgerald. One of the most unique, innovative singers ever, winning 13 Grammys and selling 40 million albums, Ella could sing ballads, jazz and pop tunes. Her famous songbook series covered the works of Gershwin, Porter, Ellington and more. Stella Bass pays tribute to Lady Ella, accompanied by internationally-acclaimed guitarist, Hugh Buckley.

DATE: Saturday 14 January
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre

Martello Jazz

The Martello Jazz Band was formed in the autumn of 1985 by a group of enthusiastic musicians. Their aim was to produce a sound reminiscent of the Dixieland bands which were commonplace in the New Orleans of the 1920’s and 1930’s, but also to stamp on it their own brand of drive and flair. The resulting music is fresh and full of vitality, while still retaining the traditional flavour. This recipe has been successful in introducing a wide range of audiences to this form of music, even those who previously did not consider jazz to be to their taste! An evening of fun and entertainment is guaranteed.

The musicians are Clive Black (trumpet), Bill Bryson (clarinet/saxophone), Careen Starkey (vocals), Richard Schaible (bass), Fintan McGrath (drums) and Alan Bell (banjo/guitar).

DATE: Saturday 28 January
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
**Jake O’Kane**

Continuing his run of sell-out tours, Jake O’Kane is back with his new show, ‘Old Enough to Know Better’.

Combining stories from the year past with photos from the Irish News archive and the wackier side of the Internet, Jake dissects the insane from the mad and the worst from the bad, in his usual inimitable style.

Be it the ceremonial burning of his ballot card on election day, or his near fatal car journey around the Arch De Triumph in his Euro’s documentary, Jake, as usual, has much to talk about.

On this tour, Jake is supported by talented comic Terry McHugh.

**The Underground Man**

AJTC and Nottingham Playhouse present The Underground Man, adapted by Nick Wood from Mick Jackson’s Booker Prize shortlisted novel about the 5th Duke of Portland, an eccentric English aristocrat whose imagination and curiosity know no bounds. Why does he hide himself away? What is his fascination with tunnels? Will he ever unearth the secrets hidden in his memory?

Bizarre and frequently hilarious….with a Gothic twist.

**I’ll Tell My Ma!**

by Patricia Gormley

Come meet 16 year old Davina Corrina, a highly intelligent school girl with a penchant for Russian vodka and the high life. Her Mother, Chelsea Marie, a 30 something with a tangled love life who is looking to join the “mile high” club as an air stewardess with CryinAir. The lovable 60 year old Patricia, whose life has been turned upside down with tragedy, but sees the way out by turning her life into a book. Finally Granny Eileen, the fiery 80 year old matriarch of the family who is coping with facebook, tweeting and her free bus pass. Starring Christina Nelson (Handbag Positive) and directed by Alan McKee (History of the Peace, accordin to my Ma)

**The 4 of Us**

“Never before have I been to a gig where the atmosphere has been so electric...”

THE IRISH NEWS 21.3.14

THE 4 OF US bring their critically acclaimed acoustic show to The Down Arts Centre, showcasing songs from their new album ‘SUGAR ISLAND’, as well as songs from their extensive back catalogue. From their first anthem, ‘MARY’ - still a radio favourite, through to the UK-charting ‘SHE HITS ME’, ‘to SUNLIGHT’ - the band has notched up over two decades of radio hits and six top 20 charting albums.
Neil Delamere – Handstand

Following sold out shows last year, the master of mirth is back with his own unique brand of his irreverent humour. 2016 was another busy year for the perennially popular star of the Blame Game, which celebrates its 10th birthday on TV this year. With that, a science comedy series for RTE2 and his radio show on Today FM under his belt, now he is back to where it all started, talking to strangers in rooms for money.

"Simply put, Delamere is a master"

THE SCOTSMAN

DATE: Sunday 5 March
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £20
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
GUIDANCE: Contains adult references

Give My Head Peace

Give My Head Peace Live sells out theatres all across Northern Ireland. Why? Well, because it features all the best loved characters from Give My Head Peace and combines up to the minute satire, topical jokes and laugh out loud comedy. Featuring Uncle Andy, Da, Pastor Begbie, Ma, Cal, Billy and Dymnna as well as superb stand-up from Tim McGarry, don’t miss the brand new GMHP Live stage show. It’s a night of guaranteed laughs. (Free Irish passport with every ticket).

DATE: Friday 17 March
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £22.50
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY: David Hull Promotions
GUIDANCE: Contains adult references

Ardnaglass On The Air by Jimmy Kerr

Ardnaglass On The Air! Ireland’s Top Premiere Rural Community Radio Station! Join Hugh Francis O’Connell and Margaret Mary-Rose for latest in Ardnaglass... community news, “Gossip Corner”, and who’s “kicked the bucket”.

Life on the air can be tough and things aren’t always what they seem. But today, a high powered BBC executive is paying a visit and this could be their chance. It’s a big day for the “Ardnaglass On The Air” radio show, what could possibly go wrong?

DATE: Saturday 4 March
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY: Dyad Productions

Jane Eyre: An Autobiography

From the creators of: Austen’s Women, I, Elizabeth and The Unremarkable Death of Marilyn Monroe. Struggling to think, live and love beyond the stifling expectations of duty, class and convention, governess Jane Eyre and Master Edward Rochester take a dark journey towards sensual and intellectual liberation. Told through Jane’s eyes, English literature’s most celebrated autobiographical novel shocked the Victorians, and Charlotte Brontë’s gothic subversion of fairy-tale romance is now distilled for the stage – under its full title – by writer/director Elton Townend Jones. Performer Rebecca Vaughan embodies everywoman Jane – and several other characters – in this intimate study of love’s realities.

DATE: Sunday 26 February
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY: Dyad Productions

Give My Head Peace – Handstand

Give My Head Peace by Jimmy Kerr

DATE: Sunday 5 March
TIME: 8pm (bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £20
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
GUIDANCE: Contains adult references

Hilarious, cheerful, surprising and tearful. A rural “rom-com” with the sound of pigs in the air.

DATE: Wednesday 15 February
TIME: 8pm
PRICE: £12 / £10 (concession)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre

PRESEnTED BY: C21 Theatre Company
WARNING: Contains colourful language, livestock, and activities that require wellies.

“Simply put, Delamere is a master”

THE SCOTSMAN
Celtic Soul

Celtic Soul pay homage to one of the truly great singer/songwriters of all time: our own Sir Van Morrison.

This 7-piece band have the ingredients to deliver Van’s music authentically. You’ll hear Van’s hits and classic album tracks as Celtic Soul take you through the songbook of a musical legend!

“a great band and a very fine tribute.”
RALPH MCLEAN, BBC

DATE: Saturday 25 March
TIME: 8pm
(bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre

Grainne Duffy

“Grainne Duffy is a contemporary blues based artist hailing from Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan. Described by The Sunday Times as ‘a blues singer of real integrity’, Grainne Duffy is a pioneer of her own style while also paying sincere homage to her roots, soul, blues and rock traditions. Her Live album recorded on tour in Germany, released earlier last year earned her a 9/10 review in Classic Rock sister magazine, The Blues Magazine, quoting ‘This sensational live album confirms Grainne Duffy’s formidable reputation’, ‘few possess her killer combination of vocal strength, range and intensity, guitar virtuosity and ability to engage audiences’ ‘this is one of the best live CDs of 2015’”

DATE: Saturday 1 April
TIME: 8pm
(bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre

The Blue Boy of Glen Mór

Jemmy John is a tortured soul. The flax bogs on the Glen and the cottage are his life. His younger sister Colleen however, doesn’t share his enthusiasm. She feels entrapped by the bog and the Glen and her brother. She craves the chance of a better life. Two local suitors, Paudie Rua and Stephen are determined to steal Colleen’s heart and escape the Glen... but Jemmy John is having none of it! A fresh, sensational and hauntingly dark comedy, ‘The Blue Boy Of Glen Mór’ is a thrilling piece of theatre that will have you on the edge of your seat from the start. From the multi-awarding winning company who brought you ‘The Holy, Holy Bus’, ‘Man In The Moon’ & ‘A Night With George’.

DATE: Friday 28 April
TIME: 8pm
(bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY: Brassneck Theatre Company

Celtic Leading Ladies

Award winning singing sensations, The Leading Ladies, bring their highly acclaimed ‘Celtic Classics’ show to Down Arts Centre.

So join Northern Ireland’s own Celtic Leading Ladies and their fantastic live band for a truly stunning fusion of Irish and popular music, sensational harmonies and of course some glamour!

DATE: Saturday 29 April
TIME: 8pm
(bar available from 7pm)
PRICE: £12 / £10 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY:
St Patrick’s Day

Down Arts Centre will once again open the doors to all visitors to Downpatrick with lots of activities, demonstrations and arts & crafts on offer.

Punch and Judy performances will take place in the Centre at 12pm and 2pm and Aiden Milligan will provide interactive drumming sessions outside the Arts Centre from 11am–3pm. There will be demonstrations by Helen Faulkner (artist in residence) on the pottery wheel with an opportunity for hands on fun. Arts & crafts workshops will take place between 11am & 4pm for all little ones to make some fab St Patrick’s Day art projects plus loads more.

St Patrick’s night, Down Arts Centre will be hosting Give My Head Peace. Brand new show, out on tour at the minute and receiving rave reviews. Laugh the night away.

Sunday Poems

We invite budding readers, writers and singers to join us in celebrating the written word in all its forms. Offering a friendly space to read, everyone is invited to join in by sharing a piece of their own work, or perhaps a favourite poem.

Our featured readers are:

26 February:
Dundrum Writers: a group of all ages and backgrounds brought together by their love of writing, who meet on the 1st Saturday of each month in Newcastle.

30 April:
Author, poet and creative writing facilitator, Lynda Tavakoli, who has recently published short story collection ‘Under a Cold White Moon’.

DATE: Sunday 26 February & Sunday 30 April
TIME: 2.30 – 4.30pm
PRICE: FREE
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
CONTACT: wordsforcastleward@gmail.com
PRESENTED BY: Castle Ward Arts and Crafts and Down Arts Centre
Financial Climate

The financial world and the climate have been dramatically changed in the news over the past ten years. The works in this show explore how they are linked, in a wide range of paintings and drawings, often made on top of existing images from sources like newspapers and stock market reports.

Here you can watch big business and finance affecting the weather, see slow nature challenging and being challenged by stock market flash traders, and encounter the real Worldbank.

While doing so, you will move among constellations, polar regions, storms, trees, birds, moths and even the odd human. As they say in restaurants, “Enjoy”.

DATE: Friday 3 March – Saturday 25 March
TIME: During opening hours
PRICE: FREE
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
ARTIST: Belinda Loftus

Rivers and Streams

Stephen McClean is a self taught artist from Northern Ireland. For years Stephen walked up rivers and over fields with his camera and in his 30’s he took up painting. His composition skills honed through years of taking photos helps him frame the image in the landscape. In this exhibition he tried to capture the elusive quality of light playing on water in Northern Ireland’s many rivers and streams.

DATE: Friday 31 March – Saturday 29 April
TIME: During opening hours
PRICE: FREE
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
ARTIST: Stephen McClean

Material Language

Material Language is a collaborative exhibition between three makers, who are commenting on our relationship with objects - hand-made, mass-manufactured or through nostalgia and memory.

DATE: Friday 2 February – Saturday 26 February
TIME: During opening hours
PRICE: FREE
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
ARTIST: Chris Banks, Rhiannon Ewing-James and Elaine McCully

Down Community Arts: Expanded Vision

Down Community Arts is showcasing a range of projects created in response to the expanding vision of the community groups they work with in the area. The exhibition showcases various art forms all created by community groups who have worked alongside professional artists. Earlier this year DCA initiated a collective of drummers, all older men who have spent the past few months learning to play the handmade Cajon drums, built by the Men’s Shed Downpatrick. The exhibition will be opened with a performance from the group.

DATE: Friday 13 January – Saturday 28 January
TIME: During opening hours
PRICE: FREE
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
ARTIST: Various
Intermediate Dressmaking

This class is aimed at those who are familiar with using their own sewing machine and can therefore thread it up and wind a bobbin. In the past if you have had some practice with using patterns to make your own clothes this class will help you develop those skills to a higher level. All patterns will be provided and different techniques will be taught how to do buttonholes, insert zips and use stretchy fabrics. Please bring along your own sewing machine.

DATE: Tuesday 24 January for 12 weeks from 6:30–9pm
PRICE: £65 / £60 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Naomi Whan

Silver Jewellery

Create a unique piece of silver jewellery in this very popular class. Each participant will be taught traditional jewellery making techniques such as piercing, soldering, rolling, annealing and filing. If you have attended previous workshops this is a great opportunity to build on the skills that you have already gained.

Copper sheet provided. Sterling silver to be purchased by each participant.

DATE: Tuesday 24 January for 12 weeks from 10–1pm & Wednesday 25 January for 12 weeks from 7–9pm
PRICE: Tuesday £115 / £105; Wednesday £90 / £85
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Diane Lyness

Painting

This established course is aimed at both beginners and those who have some experience of oil or acrylic painting. Instruction will be given in the chosen medium and the sessions will cover essentials such as basic equipment and materials, getting started, choosing subject matter, composition, colour, perspective, still life and landscape. A list of materials needed is available on the website (www.downartscentre.com) in ‘downloads’.

DATE: Tuesday 24 January OR Thursday 26 January 10 weeks
TIME: 7pm–9pm
PRICE: £55 / £50 concession
VENUE: Newcastle Centre
TUTOR: Martin McParland

Cake Decorating Workshop

Learn how using a variety of cake decorating techniques enables you to create beautiful cakes with a professional finish.

These classes will allow you to learn a variety of techniques including working with sugar paste, royal icing and buttercream. We will also be making gum paste flowers.

Cakes and materials will be supplied at the first workshop and guidance on what to bring will be given for the remaining 9 weeks.

DATE: Monday 23 January & Tuesday 24 January for ten weeks
TIME: Monday 10:30am – 1:30 & Tuesday 6:30–9pm
PRICE: Monday: £70 / £65 concession, Tuesday: £65 / £60 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Lindy McMahon
Creative Writing

These workshop-based classes are designed to support those who wish to explore and develop their writing skills. They will cover topics such as writers’ tools and sources, character and plot, as well as looking at a variety of styles including short stories, scriptwriting and poetry. Opportunities to experiment with different types of writing will be provided to enable participants to find and enhance their own writer’s voice. Whether for fun or with a view to publication, this course aims to find ways to unlock imagination and to develop a greater awareness of craft.

DATE: Wednesday 25 January for 10 weeks
TIME: 7pm-9pm
PRICE: £55 / £50 Concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Dr Catherine Kelly

Painting

This established course is aimed at both beginners and those who have some experience of oil or acrylic painting. Instruction will be given in the chosen medium and the sessions will cover essentials such as basic equipment and materials, getting started, choosing subject matter, composition, colour, perspective, still life and landscape. A list of materials needed is available on the website (www.downartscentre.com) in ‘downloads’.

DATE: Wednesday 25 January for 10 weeks
TIME: 10:30 – 12:30am
PRICE: £70/£65 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Aine McKenna

Pottery for Beginners

These classes cater to the pottery novice, or those with little experience working in clay. Experienced potter, Aine McKenna, and will help lead you through this exciting tactile medium. Aine will be teaching coiling and slabbing and an introduction to decorative techniques.

DATE: Wednesday 25 January for 10 weeks
TIME: 10:30 – 12:30am
PRICE: £70/£65 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Aine McKenna

Singers’ Circle

Singers’ Circle - join us as we celebrate 12 years of singing together! ‘Pleasant summer over and all the summer flowers, The red fire blazes, the grey smoke towers’

Sing into spring and meet other people who enjoy singing as part of a group. This term we’ve an interesting mix of songs from near and far. You don’t have to be able to read music - all the songs are taught by ear and many are uploaded to Box or YouTube to help you practice ‘If you can walk you can dance, if you can talk you can sing’ – what are you waiting for?

DATE: Wednesday 25 January for 10 weeks
TIME: 7.30pm – 9.30pm
PRICE: £35/£30 Concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Laura Plummer
**Tai-Chi for All**

Tai-Chi is an enjoyable fluid movement practice which involves focused attention of the mind. In this class you will develop movement coordination, balance and strength. You will also learn relaxation techniques to help you manage stress levels. Each class is suited to adults of all ages and fitness levels.

**DATE:**
Thursday 26 January for 14 weeks

**TIME:**
9.30 – 10.30am & 8pm – 9pm

**PRICE:**
£35 / £30 Concession

**VENUE:**
Down Art Centre

**TUTOR:**
Paul Fitz

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**Beginners Dressmaking**

This course is aimed at those who have never learnt any dressmaking skills and those who need help in using a sewing machine. You will be taught how to read a pattern and understand what all the symbols mean. Your tutor will provide all of the patterns and you will experiment with different garments in order to gain the confidence to be able to make your own clothes.

**DATE:**
Thursday 26 January for 12 weeks

**TIME:**
10:30pm – 1pm

**PRICE:**
£75 / £70 Concession

**VENUE:**
Down Arts Centre

**TUTOR:**
Naomi Whan

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**Ossia Guitar**

In a relaxed and informal setting, all students will gain valuable playing experience whilst having fun. A perfect option for all beginner guitarists seeking a fun-based learning programme. All aspects of guitar playing will be touched upon, from basic rhythms to fundamental finger style.

**DATE:**
Thursday 26 January for 10 weeks

**TIME:**
6:30pm – 7:30pm (Beginners)
7:30 pm – 8:30pm (Improvers)

**PRICE:**
£35 / £30 Concession

**VENUE:**
Down Arts Centre

**TUTOR:**
Paul McMordie

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**Love To Sew**

With gorgeous gifts and fun ideas for the home, this class contains step-by-step instructions, patterns and a fantastic selection of projects. All the designs and patterns are very imaginative, lively and easy to make. You will get the chance to sew fashion accessories, decorations, items for the home amongst other things. Various techniques will be explored including machine and hand embroidery for a fun and relaxing way to bring your inspirations to life. This class suits all sewing abilities.

**DATE:**
Friday 27 January for 10 weeks

**TIME:**
10:30 – 1pm

**PRICE:**
£45 / £40 Concession

**VENUE:**
Down Arts Centre

**TUTOR:**
Naomi Whan
Silver Jewellery Workshop

Spend a day of fun in the workshop and create a piece of silver jewellery. Each participant will be taught traditional jewellery making techniques such as piercing, soldering, rolling, annealing and filing, enabling them to design and make a beautiful piece of jewellery to take home.

DATE: Saturday 4 February & Saturday 11 March
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £60 / £55 concession (materials and lunch included)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Diane Lyness

Cake Decorating Workshop

This workshop will allow you to try the beautiful art of Cake decorating. You will learn how to cover and decorate a celebration Cake to a professional finish and will also use different cutters, modelling tools and colouring techniques to create Cake toppers, flowers and bows. You will have a beautiful, decorated cake to take home by the end of the workshop.

If you have attended a previous workshop this is great opportunity to build on the skills you have already gained and also learn some new and on trend techniques. Cakes will be provided and please bring something to carry your lovely cake home in.

DATE: Saturday 11 February & Saturday 18 March
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession (materials and lunch included)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Lindy McMahon

Pottery

Helen Faulkner will give an introduction to a range of pottery techniques including hand-building techniques such as slab building and coiling as well as throwing on a potter’s wheel. Clay, glazes and firing included.

Also: One to one pottery throwing lessons available with Helen (1½ hours including materials and firings for £75) contact Helen directly helenfaulknerceramics@gmail.com
Necklace, Charm Bracelet & Earring

Make your own charm bracelet and pair of earrings. Learn how to use jewellery findings and basic wirework techniques. This workshop will take you through all the stages; using different tools used in jewellery making, using wire and chains, how to use findings such as clasps and jump rings, finishing your jewellery and basic wireworking techniques.

You will have a beautiful charm bracelet and pair of earrings to take home.

DATE: Saturday 18 February
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Lindy McMahon

Cathedral Window Patchwork

Come along and learn this beautiful traditional patchwork technique. Cathedral Window Patchwork looks very intricate, however it is very simple to construct. You will learn how to create this folded fabric technique and begin to construct a small wall hanging. Hand and machine sewing will be used. If you have a sewing machine, please bring it along with you. If you don’t have your own please inquire at time of booking and one maybe available for you to use.

DATE: Saturday 25 February
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Naomi Whan

Traditional Spoon Carving Workshop

This workshop is new to the Arts Centre for 2017, join Clive Lyttle from Welig Heritage Crafts to cleave, chop and carve your way to a wooden eating spoon. Using timber sustainably sourced from his own woodland near Portaferry you will create your very own and unique spoon.

DATE: Saturday 4 March
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Clive Lyttle

Easter Baskets

Ever wanted to learn how to create an Easter basket from willow sticks and a few basic tools well here is your chance. We will be weaving a handled basket suitable for collecting eggs or many other functions around the home or garden. All tools and materials are provided and no experience is necessary as you will be led through the making stages by master basketmaker Clive Lyttle from Welig Heritage Crafts.

DATE: Saturday 1 April
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Clive Lyttle
Easter Flower Arranging

Create your own festive floral art arrangements in this one day workshop with Elizabeth Rea and learn the basic flower arranging skills for traditional and contemporary design. Suitable for beginners and those with experience.

DATE: Saturday 8 April
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £40 / £35 concession (materials and lunch included)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Elizabeth Rea

Free motion Embroidery and Appliqué

This is a really informative yet practical workshop. You will learn the techniques of appliqué and the basics of free machine embroidery which is the ideal way to ‘draw’ quirky colourful designs onto fabric using your sewing machine. Also you will be shown how to stitch onto a water-soluble fabric which can create beautiful effects. This is a very fun and creative workshop not to be missed!

DATE: Saturday 22 April
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession (materials and lunch included)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Elizabeth Rea

Cupcakes for Kids

Join Lindy McMahon on this popular workshop and introduce your kids to the art of cupcake decoration. Imagine the designs that could be brought to life.

DATE: Saturday 25 March
TIME: 10am – 12pm for 8 – 11 years
2pm – 4pm for 12+
PRICE: £8 per 2 hour session
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Lindy McMahon

Circus Workshops

Streetwise Community Circus Workshops include a mixture of group activities (such as warm-up games and cool down exercises). Combining all the elements of Circus – Juggling, Stiltwalking, Unicycling, Diabolo, Flower Sticks etc., for a day of fun and laughs.

DATE: Saturday 8th April
TIME: 10am – 12pm for 8 – 11 years
2pm – 4pm for 12+
PRICE: £5 per 2 hour session
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Streetwise Community Circus

DATE: Saturday 22 April
TIME: 10am – 4pm
PRICE: £45 / £40 concession (materials and lunch included)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Naomi Whan
The Digital Art Workshop

In an animated film, anything can happen, we will help you create it. We offer an exciting range of creative animation workshops where participants will be encouraged to do every part of the filmmaking process, from initial idea all the way to the edit.

Through this course you will learn character creation, storyboarding, story development, arts and crafts, stop motion animation, compositing and video editing. It’s develops good communication, team work, confidence building.

DATE: Wednesday 25 January for 8 weeks
TIME: 4 – 6pm
PRICE: £50/£45 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Ossia Music
AGE RANGE: 7 – 18 years

Rock School

Whether you’re an absolute beginner or a more advanced player, Ossia Music Rock School offers you the opportunity to learn and improve your skills on guitar, bass, drums, keyboards, and vocals, from professional musicians and teachers in a friendly and creative curriculum-based environment. You’ll learn to play in a band, write an original song, perform in a rock concert, and record your performance live.

DATE: Thursday 26 January for 8 weeks
TIME: 4.00pm – 6.00pm
PRICE: £50/£45 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Ossia Music Tutors
AGE RANGE: 11 – 15 years

Make, Draw, Tell

Using well-known children’s stories, each child will employ a variety of ways to explore, retell, illustrate or expand upon the stories through two and three-dimensional work, to include illustrated books, hanging mobiles and masks.

DATE: Saturday 28 January for 8 weeks
TIME: 4.00pm – 6.00pm
PRICE: £30/£25 (4-6 years)
£35/£30 (7-11 years)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Lisa Murray
AGE RANGE: 4-6 years from 11am – 12pm, 7-11 years from 12:30 – 2pm

Kids Pottery classes

Join Aine McKenna to create sculptural forms, animal pots, explore texture and impressing in clay, make relief tiles and coil or pinch pots.

DATE: Saturday 28 January for 8 weeks
TIME: 4.00pm – 6.00pm
PRICE: £35/£30 (4-6 years)
£40/£35 (7-11 years)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Aine McKenna
AGE RANGE: 4-6 years from 11am – 12pm, 7-11 years from 12:30 – 2pm

DATE: Wednesday 25 January for 8 weeks
TIME: 4 – 6pm
PRICE: £50/£45 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Ossia Music
AGE RANGE: 7 – 18 years

DATE: Saturday 28 January for 8 weeks
TIME: 4.00pm – 6.00pm
PRICE: £30/£25 (4-6 years)
£35/£30 (7-11 years)
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Lisa Murray
AGE RANGE: 4-6 years from 11am – 12pm, 7-11 years from 12:30 – 2pm
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Concessions:
Performance and Adult Classes/Workshops:
Concessionary tickets apply to children under 16, full time students, people over 60, those claiming unemployment benefit or registered disabled. Proof of status will be required.

Children’s Classes/Workshops:
Concessionary tickets apply to children who are registered disabled or whose parents fall into any of the categories above.

Special Assistance:
Down Arts Centre is wheelchair accessible with a lift to all levels of the building, low level access at the box office and allocated wheelchair spaces in the auditorium. Disabled patrons can avail of a complimentary ticket for an escort if they require one. Please notify staff of any special requirements they may have when purchasing tickets.

Booking Information:
– Tickets for performances may be booked by telephone by phoning 028 4461 0747 and in person at Down Arts Centre.
– Tickets cannot be reserved without payment.
– Tickets will be held by the box office and available to pick up before or on the night of the event.
– Should you request posting, a £1 postage and administration fee will be applied.
– Tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded.
– Latecomers cannot be admitted
– All information is correct at time of print
– Down Arts Centre reserves the right to change or cancel events or refuse admission.

For full terms and conditions visit www.downartscentre.com or contact the Box Office on 028 4461 0747 to request a hard copy.

Ossia Guitar

In a relaxed and informal setting, all students will gain valuable playing experience whilst having fun. A perfect option for all beginner guitarists seeking a fun-based learning programme. All aspects of guitar playing will be touched upon, from basic rhythms to fundamental finger style.

DATE: Thursday 26 January for 10 weeks
TIME: 6:30pm – 7:30pm (Beginners) 7:30 pm-8:30pm (Improvers)
PRICE: £35/£30 concession
VENUE: Down Arts Centre
TUTOR: Paul McMordie
AGE RANGE: 8+ years

THE PIANIST

Newry Film Club 2017 season presents The Pianist in collaboration with Newry Chamber Music.

DATE: Tuesday 31 January
TIME: 7.30pm
PRICE: £5
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY: Newry Film Club

Information

Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
1a Bank Parade
Newry BT35 6HP
arts.reception@nmandd.org
www.newrymournedown.org

Booking

TO BOOK CALL: 028 3031 3180

Throughout the programme we have placed coloured rectangles directing you towards the box office telephone number.
Looking Deadly
by Niamh McGrath & Keith Singleton.

You can’t beat a good Irish funeral. A glass of warm porter, milky tea, ham sandwiches and a fight over who thought more of the dearly departed. Let Foystown’s finest funeral directors Jane and Rob help you come to terms with the loss of your dear friend and local legend big Tom McCarthy.

DATE: Tuesday 14 February
TIME: 8.00pm
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
PRICE: £8/£6

Susan Lynch Homecoming

To help celebrate the 70th birthday of Newport Players, many of its old boys, and girls, are coming back to let the Newry people acknowledge their tremendous achievements. First to the post on 16 February is Susan Lynch who has just finished working with Spielberg playing Aunt Alice in his Sci-Fi Epic “Ready Player One” to be released in 2018. Susan cut her dramatic teeth with Newport and her alma mater, St Pauls. It may be ungentlemanly to mention but she was in the 40th anniversary show, Blood Brothers.

Susan acts both on-stage and screen. One of her first TV roles straight from Central School Of Speech And Drama was opposite Robbie Coltrane in an episode of Cracker and her most recent TV performance was National Treasure, again with Coltrane. She recently stunned audiences by her performance in By The Bog Of Cats in Dublin’s Abbey Theatre. She returns to Newry to take us through her CV, review her characters and to perform with Newpointers old and new in the place named after her early mentor, Sean Hollywood. More homecomings will be announced soon.

DATE: Thursday 16 February
TIME: 7.30pm
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
PRICE: £10
PRESENTED BY: NEWPOINT PLAYERS

Floral Art Demonstrations

Themed tutorials from top professional and amateur florists using seasonal flowers and adding top tips for your own arrangements.

DATE: Monday 23 January, Monday 27 February, Monday 24 April
TIME: 7.30pm
PRICE: £5.00
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
TUTOR: Floral Art Group
Scoildrámaíocha

Féile an Íúir is our local heat of the annual Schools’ Irish Language Drama Competition – An Cumann Scoildrámaíochta. Other local féilte are held in Monaghan, Belfast, Omagh and Letterkenny.

Plays produced by local Primary and Post-Primary schools compete for nominations to proceed to the Provincial Ulster Finals in Armagh Marketplace Theatre on 23 and 24 March 2016, where they will aim to go one stage further and perform at the All Ireland Finals in Mullingar. This Féile has been organised annually without interruption since 1977 and many national awards have been accumulated over the years.

DATE: Friday 10 March
TIME: TBC
PRICE: Competing schools only
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre

Yarn & Spin: the Story of Newry’s Textile Industry

By Rosaleen Moore

DATE: Tuesday 21 March
TIME: 7.30pm
PRICE: £6

Scóildrámaíochta

Féile an Íúir is our local heat of the annual Schools’ Irish Language Drama Competition – An Cumann Scoildrámaíochta. Other local féilte are held in Monaghan, Belfast, Omagh and Letterkenny.

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DATE: Tuesday 21 February
TIME: 8pm
PRICE: Donation at the door
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre

Jack and the Beanstalk

Come and enjoy our annual pantomime full of music, dance, and spectacle! Fun for all the family.

Booking on Sunday 8 January at Altnaveigh House, Belfast Road Newry from 10am to 12.30 pm and thereafter Buttercrane Shopping Centre from Thursday 12 January.

DATE: Friday 20 – Saturday 28 January
TIME: 7.30 pm
Matinee shows at 2.30pm on 21st, 22nd and 28th.
PRICE: £7.00 adults/ £6.00 children
VENUE: Newry Town Hall
PRESENTED BY: Charlie Smyth and Newry Pantomime Group.

Mind reader
David Meade: Seeing is Deceiving

Brand new show for 2017! After last year’s record breaking sell out, TV’s million dollar mind reader is back on stage with a show that is as hilarious as it is amazing. More info: visit www.davidmeade.co.uk

DATE: Saturday 18 March
TIME: 8.00pm
PRICE: £16.50
VENUE: Newry Town Hall

Old Newry Society Lecture Series

Down the Years with Newry Musical Society by Wesley Livingstone and Charlie Smyth

DATE: Tuesday 21 February
TIME: 8pm
PRICE: Donation at the door
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
Newry Musical Feis

Annual Newry Musical Feis hosts 100's of competitors in a variety of the Arts.

DATE: 3–8 April: Irish Music
1–5 May: Speech and Drama Open

TIME: 9.30am to 9.00pm

VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre Newry

Newry Drama Festival

A feast of drama from all parts of Ireland.

DATE: 24 March–1 April

TIME: 7.30 pm

PRICE: £9.00 Nightly & Season Ticket £45.00

VENUE: Newry Town Hall

ADJUDICATOR: Scott Marshall GODA, ADA

IMAGE: Lifford Players at 2016 Festival

Oliver!

Bosco Drama Group present their interpretation of the much loved musical.

DATE: 11, 12, 13, 17, 18 April & matinee performances 17 & 18 April

TIME: 7.30pm

PRICE: £12 & £10 usual concessions

VENUE: Newry Town Hall

DIRECTED BY: Jim McGuigan

PRESENTED BY: Bosco Drama Group

Ardnaglass On The Air by Jimmy Kerr

Ardnaglass On The Air! Ireland’s Top Premiere Rural Community Radio Station! Join Hugh Francis O’Connell and Margaret Mary-Rose for latest in Ardnaglass... community news, “Gossip Corner”, and who’s “kicked the bucket”.

Life on the air can be tough and things aren’t always what they seem. But today, a high powered BBC executive is paying a visit and this could be their chance. It’s a big day for the “Ardnaglass On The Air” radio show, what could possibly go wrong?

Hilarious, cheerful, surprising and tearful. A rural “rom-com” with the sound of pigs in the air.

DATE: Tuesday 28 February

TIME: 8pm

PRICE: £8/£6 concession

VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre

PERFORMER: C21 Theatre Company

WARNING: Contains colourful language, livestock, and activities that require wellies.
West Side Story

Newry Musical Society present this stunning musical. For bookings and further information contact 07511 456420.

DATE: 6–10 March
TIME: 7.30pm
PRICE: £10.00
VENUE: Newry Town Hall
PRESENTED BY: Newry Musical Society

I’ll Tell My Ma!

by Patricia Gormley

Starring Christina Nelson, directed by Alan Mc Kee and produced by Joe Rea.

This is an hilarious one-woman show by Patricia Gormley charting the adventures and mis-adventures in the life of four generations of one West Belfast family. Meet 16 year old Davina Corrina, an intelligent schoolgirl with a penchant for vodka and the high life, her mother stewardess Chelsea Marie, the lovable Patricia writing a book, and finally Granny Eileen the fiery 80 year old matriarch.

DATE: 7 February
TIME: 8.00 pm
PRICE: £10.00
VENUE: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
PRESENTED BY: Joseph Rea Productions
GUIDANCE: Contains adult references

Warrenpoint Musical Feis

Competitions daily.

DATE: 5 March
TIME: 9.30am–9.00pm
VENUE: Warrenpoint Town Hall
PRICE: Pay at door

Aladdin

Warrenpoint Pantomime Club proudly presents their 61st production.

DATE: 6–12 February
TIME: Nightly 8pm, Matinees 3pm (5 & 11 February)
PRICE: £8 Nightly & £5 Matinees
PRESENTED BY: Warrenpoint Pantomime Group
Reynolds School of Dance

Classes in Classical, Ballet and Modern Theatre Dance. Students prepared for exams (I.S.T.D.) syllabus and performance. Contact: 028 417 73673, lreynolds54@btinternet.com

Speech and Drama for Kids

Contact: Crossan School of Speech and Drama on 07835 879672.

Accolade Choir

Accolade is a community association, established in 2013. The Association works to promote strengthened and deepened relationships between different communities and cultures through exciting and inspiring arts-based programmes within an artistic, social and educational context. Contact: virtuosoivonov@gmail.com

Christmas Stories

Christmas Stories presented by U3A Drama Group.

Date: Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 January
Time: 7.30pm
Price: Pay at door
Venue: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre
Presented by: U3A Drama Group

Newry Art Society

Contact: Arts Centre on 028 3031 3180

New works by Artist Jude Minotti

Exhibition of new works by Artist Jude Minotti

Date: Thursday 2–Friday 31 March
Time: Monday–Friday 9am–5pm
Venue: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre, Bell Gallery
Clár Geimhridh – Earraigh na nIarsmalann
Museums Winter – Spring Programme
The Museum’s major extension project, three new permanent galleries and a new tearoom opened in September 2015. The key funding (almost £500,000) for this was facilitated by the East Border Region and is part–financed by the European Union’s INTERREG IVA Cross Border Programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body. The aim of the project was to conserve the Downpatrick High Cross, a unique early Christian artefact, and display it in a purpose built gallery, continue to develop the Early Christian and St Patrick related tourism product that Downpatrick has to offer, and provide the Museum with much needed space to display its collection of farming and maritime objects and provide a refurbished tearoom for visitors.

The three new permanent galleries provide a host of fascinating detail on key areas of local history and will add greatly to visitors’ enjoyment of the Museum.

Raising the Cross in Down
Tells the story of the Downpatrick High Cross and its place in the early Christian tradition of County Down. A fascinating collection of artefacts illustrates the story of the development of Christianity in the locality, with the centrepiece being the 10th century Downpatrick High Cross displayed in a specially constructed gallery.

Harvests from Land and Sea
Displays how the farming and fishing industries have developed over time and how our landscape, culture and identity have been shaped by those working on the land and sea.

‘At Present Confined’
Life in the old Gaol of Down:
Uncovers the history of the Gaol and tells the stories of some of the prisoners confined here from 1796 to 1830.

Cathedral View Tearoom
In addition to these new galleries, our new tearoom, Cathedral View Tearoom also opened. Run by Mainstay DRP (Downe Residential Project), the tearoom provides a great range of reasonably priced snacks and lunches made with locally sourced ingredients. The tearoom also offers a great view of the Cathedral, Mound of Down and across the Quoile River to Inch Abbey.

Now Open

‘Down Through Time’ is the permanent exhibition displaying the History of County Down from 9000 years ago to the present. The exhibition brings together over one thousand objects, documents, paintings, photographs and hands-on features to provide a fascinating account of how County Down has developed over time.

With sections on Prehistory, St Patrick, Early Christian Down, the Vikings and the Normans, the Early Modern Period, the Victorians, the First and Second World Wars and Modern Times, the exhibition shows how the people of Down have lived and worked in changing and turbulent times.

Hands–on features enable visitors to undertake a range of enjoyable activities from dressing up and puzzle solving to exploring sites in the locality. A visit to ‘Down Through Time’ is a must for all ages!

Down County Museum has a collection of over 10,000 objects and almost 50,000 photographs. Museum staff are available to visit your venue to give talks on all aspects of the Collection. The Museum can also permit smaller community and educational groups to avail of special ‘behind the scenes’ tours.

For more information on arranging tours and staff talks email: mail@downcountymuseum.com or telephone 028 4461 5218
Exhibitions

From Ballyhosset to Bengal

This display features a selection of documents, photographs, medical instruments and uniforms belonging to Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Silcock which were recently donated to Down County Museum. Born in Ballyhosset in 1856, Lieutenant-Colonel Silcock joined the Indian Medical Service in 1881 and had a distinguished career as a surgeon in India.

Date: Until 30 April
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: Free

Women Artists of County Down

This exhibition displays a wide range of art works created by women artists from or living in County Down. Diverse examples of paintings, drawings, textile pieces and sculpture testify to the talent and versatility of County Down’s women artists.

Date: Until 30 April
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: Free

Milestones: Birth, Marriage and Death in County Down

This exhibition displays a fascinating selection of objects from our collections to illustrate local relationship with Birth, Marriage and Death and how we use costume, accessories and other items to convey ideas, traditions and customs around these event. Packed full of artefacts and documents this is a thought provoking examination of these themes.

Date: Until August
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: Free
Special Events

Celebrate Burns Night

Join the Friends of Down County Museum in this special celebration of Robbie Burns’ song, poetry and legacy, light supper (with haggis and a ‘wee dram’) included! Entertainment includes readings and music featuring Irish and Scottish airs. Line up includes Willie Garrett from Killyleagh (formerly of the Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band) on bagpipes and lowland pipes, Michael Steenson from Comber on guitar and Ciaran Bingham from Killinchy on fiddle with Kevin Og Kearney from Strangford, singing the songs of Burns. Poetry reading and Scottish Dancing will delight as well as a performance of Scottish airs by Downpatrick Ladies Singing Group. Tickets are available from the Museum and pre-booking is advised.

Date: Friday 27 January
Venue: Down County Museum

Time: 7.30pm
Admission: £12
(includes light supper and complimentary glass of wine/soft drink/tea/coffee)

Valentine Crafts For Children

Come along and make a great range of Valentine’s themed crafts from cards and paper decorations to jewellery boxes!

Date: Saturday 11 February
Venue: Down County Museum

Time: 1.30pm-4.30pm
Admission: £3

Roses from the Heart: Living Art Installation

Come along and be part of a special living art installation for International Women’s Day. The Roses from the Heart project was begun by Christina Henri, a conceptual artist from Hobart, Tasmania, to commemorate the thousands of British and Irish women transported to Australia from the 1780s until the mid-nineteenth century. Christina has been working with groups all over the world to create an art installation focusing on the experiences of these women. While she has been in Down County Museum, groups and individuals have made dozens of bonnets. We are inviting 500 people (500 County Down women were transported) to come to the museum and take part in a unique event. Wearing a bonnet you will take part in the creation of special aerial photography which will then be part of the Museum’s archive.

Date: Wednesday 8 March
Time: 11am
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission FREE

Playful Museums Festival: Special Museum Activities for Under 5s

Down County Museum is taking part in the Northern Ireland Museum Council ‘Playful Museums Initiative’. This project is Heritage Lottery Funded and aimed at increasing opportunities for under 5s and their parents/carers to enjoy a range of activities in museums. Come along and take part in:

• ‘Noisy Museum’: explore the Museum through sound.
• ‘Hide and seek Museum’: explore the Museum through games and treasure hunts.
• ‘Sensory Museum’: explore the Museum through using your senses.
• ‘Crafty Museum’: arts and crafts based on museum objects and exhibitions.

Date: Thursday 16–Sunday 19 February
Venue: Down County Museum
Time: 10am–12pm and 1pm–3pm
Admission: FREE
Festival Conference

St Patrick’s Week Conference

The theme of this year’s special one day conference is Medieval Warfare in Down. The conference will include a number of morning talks, an afternoon bus tour of local sites and lunch. Pre-booking for this conference is essential. As part of the conference will be outdoors, please ensure to wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Date: Thursday 16 March
Time: 9.15am-4pm
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: £20

St Patrick’s Day Celebrations!

Come along to the Museum for a great day of family entertainment. Featuring Irish dancing, traditional and folk music, storytelling, circus style entertainment, clowns, acrobats and jugglers. The Museum’s event is one of the highlights of St Patrick’s Day with a fun filled programme for all ages. Exhibitions and shop open throughout the day.

Date: Friday 17 March
Time: 10am-6pm
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: FREE

Explore Tower Houses and Other Medieval Buildings of Lecale

Join us for this special bus tour exploring the medieval heritage of Lecale. Visit a range of sites including Inch Abbey, Quoile Castle, Audley’s Castle, Strangford Castle, Kilclief Castle, Ardtol Church and Jordan’s Castle. Pre-booking for this exploration is essential. As the exploration will be outdoors, please ensure to wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Date: Saturday 18 March
Time: 9.30am-4.30pm
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: £25 (including lunch)
Easter

Easter Crafts For Children

Come along and make a great range of Easter themed crafts including cards, paper decorations and much more!

Date: Thursday 14 April
Time: 1.30pm-4.30pm
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: £3

Easter Monday Funday

Our annual Easter Monday Funday will feature egg painting and other Easter crafts, magic shows and children’s entertainment.

Date: Monday 17 April
Time: 1pm-5pm
Venue: Down County Museum
Admission: FREE

Join the Friends of Down County Museum

Why not join today and help us carry out this important work?

The Friends of Down County Museum was established to support the work of the Museum by assisting with specific projects, fund raising and promoting the Museum throughout the wider community.

Friends can also access a wide range of member benefits including:

- A free copy of the Down Survey every year
- 10% discount in the Museum shop
- Invitations to special launches and events
- Visits to sites of historical and cultural interest
- The opportunity to participate in special projects and initiatives
- Invitations to social events such as the annual dinner.

Annual membership costs £15 for a single subscription, or £20 for a family subscription.

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Annual membership costs £15 for a single subscription, or £20 for a family subscription.

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Birthday Parties at Down County Museum

Why not celebrate your child’s birthday at Down County Museum? The Museum runs a variety of themed parties such as Vikings, Victorians, Pirates, Crafts, for boys and girls aged from 6 years upwards.

Your birthday party will include:
• Themed games and trails through the Museum
• Dressing up in replica costume
• Themed craft activities
• You can also mix and match activities from each of our themed parties.

Birthday Party activities cost £50 and last one and a half hours.

For further details or to book a birthday party please contact Down County Museum on 028 4461 5218

Downpatrick Young Archaeologists’ Club

The Young Archaeologists’ Club is a great way to learn more about archaeology in your area and make new friends.

The Downpatrick branch is part of a UK wide organisation managed by the Council for British Archaeology (CBA). Membership age is 8 up to 16, and there is a small annual charge for membership of £15, in order to cover costs. We meet once a month, usually on a Saturday, and activities include ‘hands–on’ events and visits to archaeology sites.

For more information contact branch leader Moira O’Rourke at Down County Museum, or email moira.orourke@btinternet.com

NEW Group Tours Available

New tour packages now available for groups. Contact us to find out more about our Discover Early Christian Down and our Discover the Old Gaol of Down tours.

Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday: 10am – 4.30pm
Saturdays and Sundays: 1.30pm – 5pm

Admission:
Admission to the Museum is free of charge. There is however a charge for some special events and for guided tours.

Accessibility:
The Museum is fully accessible for families with young children, visitors with mobility difficulties and wheelchair users. Toilets for visitors with disabilities and baby changing facilities are available also.

Visitor Facilities:
The Museum shop has an excellent range of books on local history, items of local crafts, children’s goods and souvenirs.

Contact:
The Mall, Downpatrick
Co Down, BT30 6AH
T: 028 4461 5218
mail@downcountymuseum.com
www.downcountymuseum.com

Facebook: DownCountyMuseum

Down County Museum Programme Winter–Spring

Education Services

Down County Museum provides curriculum linked active learning sessions for Foundation Stage, KS1, KS2 and KS3 pupils. Our hands–on education programmes and experiences are designed to meet the areas of: the world around us, language and literacy, the arts, religious education plus personal development and mutual understanding (PDMU).

For more details contact linda.mckenna@downdc.gov.uk

Room Hire

The Museum is an ideal venue for conferences, meetings or staff development days.

Located on the top floor of the restored cell block and fully accessible by lift or stairs, we have a large conference room capable of seating 100 people (theatre or lecture style) comfortably. The room can also accommodate 30 people seated around tables in variety of formats. Facilities include WiFi, PA system (including loop–system), slide projector, overhead projector, screen, flip chart and PowerPoint system.

A smaller meeting room located downstairs in the restored cell block can accommodate 30 people (theatre or lecture style) comfortably and 15 seated around tables. A large screen can be used for PowerPoint/DVD.

Both conference and meeting rooms are available for hire during Museum opening hours and out of hours. For full details on our conference and meeting facilities and for information on rates of hire, contact us on 028 4461 5218.

12 – 13
Welcome to Newry and Mourne Museum

Newry and Mourne Museum first opened in 1986 in Newry Arts Centre and moved to larger premises at Bagenal’s Castle in March 2007.

The Castle’s exact location was lost over the years due to constant adaptation of the building, not least when the premises were purchased by Arthur McCann Ltd in 1894 and converted into a bakery.

Rediscovered in 1996 when McCann’s sold the site, the Castle has been sympathetically restored. During the restoration process, drawings from a survey of the Castle completed c.1568 allowed archaeologists to uncover many original features of the Castle and these have been interpreted for the visitor.

The main exhibitions in the Museum include prehistoric material, Newry as a merchant town, the working life of the area and modern experiences of living in a Border area. Changes are made to the main exhibitions on an annual basis.

Tours:
FREE tours of the main exhibitions are available each Sunday at 3pm. Numbers are limited to 20 and pre booking of places is advisable. For more information please contact 028 3031 3178 or 028 3031 3182.

Audio guides:
For visitors who just wish to take a stroll through the galleries the Museum provides FREE audio guides in English and Irish which provide more information on the Castle and exhibits.

Opening Hours:
Monday–Saturday:
10am–4.30pm
Sundays: 1.30pm–5pm

Admission:
Admission to the Museum is free of charge

Exhibitions

In addition to the three main galleries, there are two temporary exhibition galleries, which have a vibrant programme of exhibitions.

Gallery 1
Displays tell the story of Newry and Mourne from the prehistoric period up to the 16th century. Artefacts on display include a grave slab from a pre-Norman monastic foundation in the area and a stone carved with a human head and heraldic animal from the medieval Cistercian abbey at Newry.

Gallery 2
The commercial and cultural heritage of Newry and Mourne in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries is explored. Highlights include a long case clock made by John Gelston in Newry c.1770 and the robes of the Order of St. Patrick worn by the Third Earl of Kilmorey.

Gallery 3
An eclectic range of artefacts is used to trace the impact of national and international political events on Newry as a Border Town in the 20th century. Sections of the gallery are devoted to the business, cultural and domestic life of the area.
Temporary Exhibition Programme

**Women in Newry and Mourne in the 20th century**

This major temporary exhibition explores the role and achievements of women with local connections in the Newry and Mourne area and farther afield, in home life, business, education, sport, politics, church life, both world wars, fine art and the performing arts.

Around one hundred artefacts including photographs, documents, personal accessories and costume underline the important part played by women in the development of society in the area.

Highlights include art by Margaret Clarke, originally from Newry and one of Ireland’s most distinguished inter-war portrait painters, an autograph book which belonged to Margaret Anderson from Kilkeel, who was a nurse in both World Wars and the dress worn by Mary McAleese, President of Ireland from 1997 until 2011, at the State Banquet to mark the visit of HM Queen Elizabeth II to Ireland in 2010.

**Education in Newry and Mourne: an Historical Perspective**

Drawing on documents, photographs and objects, this exhibition explores the history of education in the Newry and Mourne area. The provision of education including the role of private schools in the 19th century, the introduction and impact of National Schools, the influence of religious denominations in local education and changes introduced by legislation are examined. The range of artefacts on display provide this exhibition with a strong reminiscence element for older people while giving children and young people an insight into school life in by-gone days.

Artefacts of special interest include early 20th century material from Newry Technical College, drawing and exercise books from St. Colman’s School in Kilkeel, promotional postcards from St. Colman’s College in Newry dating from the 1920s and photographs and badges from Newry Grammar School and a banner from St. Clare’s Convent Primary School.

**Date:**

Until 30th April 2017

**Venue:**

Newry and Mourne Museum

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**Date:**

Until 3 September 2017

**Venue:**

Newry and Mourne Museum
Costume Case Displays

McCann’s Bakery Memorabilia

McCann’s Bakery delivered bread to a wide hinterland around Newry. This display features a breadman’s coat, leather money bag and wallet and celebrates the Museum’s link with the former bakery.

Date: Until 28 February 2017
Venue: Newry and Mourne Museum

Irish National Forester’s Uniform

This temporary display features an early 20th century uniform worn by a member of the Irish Foresters complemented by a 1903 membership certificate from Branch John Mitchel in Newry along with sashes and documents.

Date: 1 March–31 October 2017
Venue: Newry and Mourne Museum

Events

Spring Lecture series

Newry and Mourne Museum will host a lecture series that will look at key aspects of the role of Women in the 20th century, in worklife, politics and social history.

Date: 20–24 February 2017
Time: 3pm–5pm
Venue: Newry and Mourne Museum

St. Patrick’s Day

Join us at the Museum for a clay arts and crafts workshop for children. This will involve children making their own designs and pendants, so dress for mess. An adult must accompany children. Numbers are limited to 20 children and pre booking of places is advisable. Suitable for ages 4-11.

Date: Friday 17 March
Time: 10am – 11.30am
Venue: Newry and Mourne Museum

Admission: £1.50 per child

Pre-booking is essential
028 3031 3178

www.newryandmournemuseum.com

Newry and Mourne Museum Programme Winter–Spring
Easter Celebrations in the Museum

Come along for our arts and crafts activities themed around Easter traditions. These are open to families with children aged four upwards. Numbers are limited to 20 children and pre booking of places is advisable. Suitable for ages 4–11.

Date: Saturday 8 April
Time: 10.30am to 12.00pm, 1.30pm - 3.00pm
Venue: Newry and Mourne Museum
Admission: £1.50 per child

Reminiscence Loan Box Service

This service is free and the boxes can be borrowed for a two week period. Museum staff can provide brief instruction on how the boxes can be used. They include:

- The 1940s and 1950s
- School Life
- Household
- Earning a Crust
- Rural Life
- Grooming and Fashion
- The 1970s and 1980s
- Christmas

Touring Exhibition Programme

Admission to travelling exhibitions is free of charge

Travelling exhibitions are available free of charge from the Museum. The current exhibitions available, which each comprise five pop-up stands, are:

Farming in the Local Area
Looks at the development of farming, with aspects such as agricultural shows and farming co-operatives detailed in Newry, Loughbrickland, Rathfriland and south Armagh.

Newry and Mourne in the Great War
 Tells the local story of the impact of the First World War, with references to Bessbrook, Jerretspass, Kilkeel, Newry, Newtownhamilton, Rostrevor and Warrenpoint.

The Great Famine
Provides an overview of how the famine affected the local area, with reference to Newry, Forkhill, Warrenpoint, Downpatrick and Crossgar.

1916 and After
Themes explored include local figures associated with the Easter Rising of 1916, how it was reported in local newspapers and its impact on local politics.

www.newryandmournemuseum.com

To check availability and to book telephone 028 3031 3178 or 028 3031 3182.
Opening Hours:
The Museum is open:
Monday to Saturday: 10am – 4.30pm
Sundays: 1.30pm – 5pm

Admission:
Admission to the Museum is free of charge.
There is a charge for some workshops, lectures, special events and guided tours.

Accessibility:
The Museum is fully accessible.

Education Services
The Museum provides a wide range of workshops based on the history of the Newry and Mourne area. Events and activities usually cost £1 per child. Workshops can be arranged according to your school timetable. For bookings and more information please email: museum@newryandmourne.gov.uk

Family Events and Lecture Programme
A varied programme of events, courses, activities and lectures are available. To find out what is scheduled this spring and to join our mailing list contact us by phone or email. Events are posted on Facebook.

Contact:
Newry and Mourne Museum
Bagenal’s Castle, Castle Street
Newry, Co. Down BT34 2BY
Weekdays: 028 3031 3175 or 028 3031 3178
Weekends: 07554 772523
museum@nmandd.org
www.bagenalscastle.com
facebook newryandmourneArtsMuseum
Twitter @nandmmuseum

Room Hire

There are two rooms available for events and activities that complement the Museum’s ethos e.g. lectures, workshops, seminars, community events and meetings.

On the second floor of the 16th century Bagenal’s Castle there is a Banqueting Room, with original features. On the ground floor of the Warehouse, with the former McCann’s Bakery shop frontage, there is a Meeting Room.

To check availability, conditions of hire, price and to book a room please contact Museum Reception at 028 3031 3175.

Research Resources

The Museum contains significant archival collections, including the Reside Collection and the Hugh Irvine Collection, which are important sources for anyone researching social and family history in the area. The Museum also has an important Nationalist political collection, relating to Eamon Donnelly. To view a document please contact us by email or phone.