



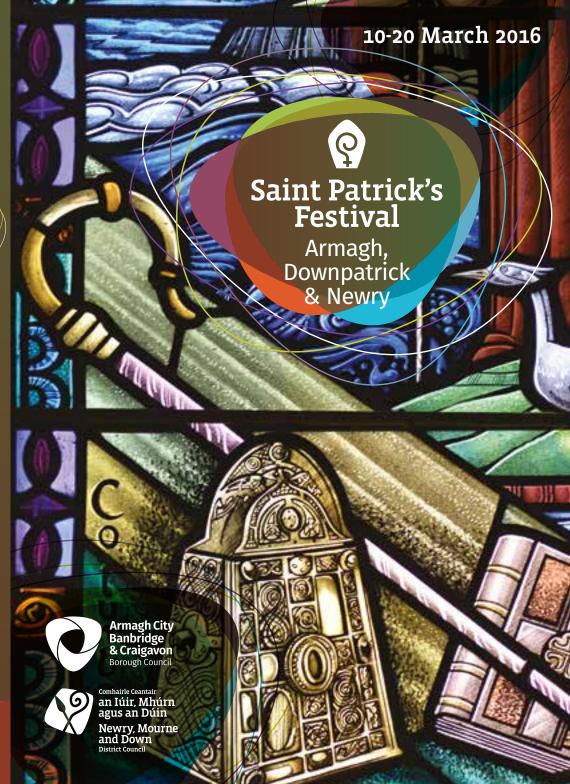
Armagh Visitor Information Centre 40 English Street Armagh BT61 7BA +44 (0)28 3752 1800

Downpatrick Visitor Information Centre (Festival Office)
The Saint Patrick Centre
53a Market Street
Downpatrick
BT30 6LZ
+44 (0)28 4461 2233

Newry Visitor Information Centre Bagenal's Castle Castle Street Newry BT34 2BY +44 (0)28 3031 3170

www.armagh.co.uk www.saintpatrickscountry.com







WELCOME TO ARMAGH, DOWNPATRICK AND NEWRY THIS SAINT PATRICK'S FESTIVAL.

Armagh and Downpatrick are at the heart of celebrating the life of Saint Patrick so why not come and enjoy Saint Patrick's Day with us? Come and join in a lively and varied festival showcasing the best of culture, music, song and dance.

Saint Patrick has strong links to both Armagh and Downpatrick. It was in Armagh that the patron saint began his mission in Ireland and established the City as the country's spiritual capital. Patrick was born in Britain around 400AD. As a boy he was captured and brought to Slemish Mountain in County Antrim to work as a shepherd. After six years of captivity he escaped back to Britain and studied in a monastery.

Following a vision from an angel called Victoricus, Patrick returned to Ireland as a Bishop and taught the Christian faith using the shamrock to explain the Trinity. Patrick's mission lasted for many years and it is believed he died in the 5th century on 17 March and was buried in a site adjacent to Down Cathedral.

Today, Armagh has two Cathedrals which are a celebration of Patrick's life, legacy and mission. Saint Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral stands on the site where Patrick built his Great Church in 445AD. Opposite stands Saint Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, where Patrick is reputed to have placed a rescued fawn.

Downpatrick is well known for its connection with our Patron Saint and its wider Christian and Built Heritage. Notably, The Saint Patrick Centre is the only permanent exhibition in the world dedicated to telling the story of Saint Patrick, close by his resting place at Down Cathedral. The recently extended Down County Museum also holds an important and impressive collection of artefacts from our historic past, including the original Downpatrick High Cross.

Saint Patrick established Ireland's first Christian Church in 432AD at nearby Saul which is now overlooked by the towering figure of our patron saint from Slieve Patrick, erected in 1938 to commemorate the 1500th anniversary of Patrick's return to Ireland.

a busy festival showcasing the best of culture, music, song and dance...

Saint Patrick's Festival AT A GLANCE

	Event	Date	Venue Location	Page
2	In the Footsteps of St Patrick - An Exhibition	Wed 3 Feb - Sun 24 Apr	Down County Museum	09
	From Ballyhossett to Bengal - An Exhibition	Wed 3 Feb - Sun31 Dec	Down County Museum	09
	Recent Acquisitions - An Exhibition	Fri 5 Feb - Sat 16 Apr	Armagh County Museum	09
NOIL	Icons - An Exhibition	Fri 19 Feb - Sat 19 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	09
EXHIBITIONS	Shared Meaning - An Exhibition	Fri 19 Feb - Sat 19 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	09
<u> </u>	Church Lads Brigade - An Exhibition	Sat 27 Feb - Sat 16 Apr	Armagh County Museum	09
	Essence of form - An Exhibition	Thurs 3 Mar - Sun 30 Oct	Down County Museum	09
	In travel - An Exhibition	Fri 4 Mar - Sat 2 April	Down Arts Centre	09
	Féile Scoildrámaíochta Uladh 2016/Irish Schools Drama Ulster Final 2016	Thurs 10 - Fri 11 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	11
	Love or Money	Thurs 10 - Fri 11 Mar	The Market Place Theatre Down Arts Centre	11
	Self - guided walking tours	Fri 11 - Sun 20 Mar	Downpatrick	11
	Lighting Up for St Patrick	Fri 11 - Sun 20 Mar	Throughout Armagh and Downpatrick	11
	St Patrick's Festival Conference	Fri 11 Mar	Down County Museum	11
	Tommy Smith and Brian Kellock	Fri 11 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	12
	Guided Tour along the Quoile	Sat 12 Mar	Downpatrick	12
-	Celebrate St Patrick: Festival Choral Event	Sat 12 Mar	St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Armagh	12
	Celtic Soul	Sat 12 Mar	Down Arts Centre	12
	"The Year of the Hiker" by John B Keane	Sat 12 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	12
	Jimmy's Ten and Family Fun Day	Sun 13 Mar	Downpatrick	13
	St Patrick's Landing & Food Banquet	Sun 13 Mar	Inch Abbey, Downpatrick	13
	Armagh Pipers Club Annual Concert	Sun 13 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	13
	St Patrick Around the World - Festival Lecture	Mon 14 Mar	The Saint Patrick Centre	13

EventDateVenue LocationFéis Ard MhachaMon 14 - Tues 15 MarThe Market Place Theatre"Monday's Child" by Brendan MurrayTues 15 MarDown Arts CentreDigging up your roots - family history fairTues 15 MarArmagh City LibraryAn evening with PatrickTues 15 MarThe Market Place TheatreSession trails across Armagh and DownpatrickWed 16 - Sun 20 MarVarious venuesLive Broadcast with Frank Mitchell from U105Wed 16 MarThe Saint Patrick CentreNiall de BurcaWed 16 MarThe Market Place TheatreReptile DisplayWed 16 MarThe Saint Patrick CentreSt Patrick's LectureWed 16 MarThe Market Place TheatreDown to Dine Food TourWed 16 MarDenvir's, Downpatrick	13 13 14 15
Tues 15 Mar "Monday's Child" by Brendan Murray Tues 15 Mar Digging up your roots - family history fair An evening with Patrick Session trails across Armagh and Downpatrick Live Broadcast with Frank Mitchell from U105 Niall de Burca Reptile Display Wed 16 Mar Tues 15 Mar The Market Place Theatre Various venues Sun 20 Mar The Saint Patrick Centre Wed 16 Mar The Market Place Theatre Wed 16 Mar The Saint Patrick Centre The Saint Patrick Centre Wed 16 Mar The Saint Patrick Centre	13 13 14
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St Patrick's Lecture Wed 16 Mar The Market Place Theatre	15
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Down to Dine Food Tour Wed 16 Mar Denvir's, Downpatrick	16
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Beoga In Concert Wed 16 Mar The Great Hall, Music & Dance Show Downpatrick	16
Brian Finnegan & Friends Wed 16 Mar The Market Place Theatre	16
Armagh Church & Cathedral Services Thurs 17 Mar Armagh Churches	18
St Patrick's Day Concert Thurs 17 Mar Armagh City Centre	18
St Patrick's Carnival Procession Thurs 17 Mar Armagh City Centre	18
St Patrick's Family Fun Day Thurs 17 Mar Shambles Yard, Armagh	18
Discovering the stars at Armagh Thurs 17 Mar The Market Place Theatre	19
Guided tour of Armagh Observatory Thurs 17 Mar Armagh Observatory	19
St Patrick's Tea Party Thurs 17 Mar Synod Hall, St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral	19
From Pagan to Patrick Thurs 17 Mar Navan Centre & Fort	19
Service of Holy Communion Thurs 17 Mar St Patrick's Church of Ireland, Saul	22
St Patrick's Day Walk Thurs 17 Mar Castle Ward, Strangford	22
Pilgrimage prayer walk from Saul Thurs 17 Mar Saul to Downpatrick to Down Cathedral	22
St Patrick's Family Day Thurs 17 Mar Down Arts Centre	22
St Patrick's Day Celebrations Thurs 17 Mar Down County Museum	
Artisan Food Market Thurs 17 Mar St Patrick Square, Downpatrick	22





Saint Patrick's Festival AT A GLANCE

	Event	Date	Venue Location	Page
	Shamrock Steam Trains	Thurs 17 Mar	Inch Abbey to Downpatrick	22
	Cross Community Service	Thurs 17 Mar	Down Cathedral	22
	Festival Fun	Thurs 17 Mar	St Patrick Square, Downpatrick	22
	U105 Road Show	Thurs 17 Mar	St Patrick Square, Downpatrick	23
	Laying of Wreath on St Patrick's Grave	Thurs 17 Mar	Down Cathedral	23
	Historical Coach Tour - Life & Times of St Patrick	Thurs 17 Mar	Down County Museum	23
	Junior Jimmy's Road Races	Thurs 17 Mar	Market Street, Downpatrick	23
	Vintage Vehicle Cavalcade	Thurs 17 Mar	Downpatrick	23
	Brian Finnegan & Friends Open Air Concert	Thurs 17 Mar	St Patrick Square, Downpatrick	23
	St Patrick's Day Cross Community Carnival Parade	Thurs 17 Mar	Downpatrick Town Centre	23
	Duke Special - Piano and Pages Tour	Thurs 17 Mar	Down Arts Centre	23
	St Patrick's Festival Events	Thurs 17 Mar	Newry City Centre	25
	Guided Downpatrick Walking Tour	Fri 18 Mar	Downpatrick	26
	Family Drive in Movie - Minions	Fri 18 Mar	Downpatrick Racecourse	26
	Celtic Spirit	Fri 18 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	26
	The Virgin Father	Fri 18 Mar	Down Arts Centre	27
	Songs from the Heart	Fri 18 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	27
	Festival Club with Connla	Fri 18 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	27
	Following in the spiritual footsteps of Saint Patrick	Sat 19 Mar	Armagh to Downpatrick	27
	Busking Competitions	Sat 19 Mar	Armagh City Centre Downpatrick Town Centre	27
	The Merman's Tale	Sat 19 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	27
	"Make it Local" Artisan Market	Sat 19 Mar	Downpatrick	29
	Early Armagh, St Patrick and the Vikings	Sat 19 Mar	Armagh County Museum	29
	Irish Dance Workshops	Sat 19 Mar	The Saint Patrick Centre	29
	Launch of St Patrick's Film	Sat 19 Mar	The Saint Patrick Centre	29
	Gospel Music Celebrations	Sat 19 Mar	Armagh City Hotel	29
	Patrick's Shamrock Supper	Sat 19 Mar	Navan Centre & Fort	29
, in the second	The Ulster Orchestra	Sat 19 Mar	St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh	31

Event	Date	Venue Location	Page
An Evening of Traditional Irish Music with Cathal Hayden, Donal Murphy and Seamie O'Dowd.	Sat 19 Mar	The Saint Patrick Centre	31
Moya Brennan	Sat 19 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	31
The Nuala's Glitterbomb Tour	Sat 19 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	31
Festival Club - Prancing Pony	Sat 19 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	34
Archaeology at Navan Centre	Sun 20 Mar	Navan Centre & Fort	34
Guided Tour - Struell Wells Memory Walk	Sun 20 Mar	Downpatrick	34
Ulster National Race Meeting	Sun 20 Mar	Downpatrick Racecourse	34
Connla	Sun 20 Mar	Market Place Theatre	34
Walk the Emania Way	Sun 20 Mar	Market Place Theatre	34
Tumble Circus - Star man	Sun 20 Mar	Market Place Theatre	35
The Arco String Quartet	Sun 20 Mar	Chapel at the Palace, Armagh	35
Organ Recital	Sun 20 Mar	St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh	35
Flann's Yer Only Man	Sun 20 Mar	The Market Place Theatre	35

FREE RETURN SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

As part of the festival and to enable visitors to participate in key events, a FREE return shuttle bus service will be in operation for the following events.

Fri 11 March ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL CONFERENCE

Down County Museum: Departing Armagh

Sat 12 March CELEBRATE ST PATRICK: FESTIVAL CHORAL EVENT

St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral: Departing Downpatrick

Sun 13 March ST PATRICK'S LANDING Inch Abbey, Downpatrick: Departing Armagh

Sat 19 March ULSTER ORCHESTRA

St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral: Departing Downpatrick

Bookings for this service must be made via the relevant Visitor Information Centres (Armagh or Downpatrick) by 12.00noon the day prior to the event. Pick up and departure times will be confirmed at time of booking, with a further pick up point at Bagenal's Castle, Newry.











Saint Patrick's Festival BOOKING INFORMATION

For information on any of the events and to book, please refer to the following contact details:

Armagh Visitor Information Centre 40 English Street Armagh BT61-7BA

+44 (0)28 3752 1800

www.armagh.co.uk

Downpatrick Visitor Information Centre

The Saint Patrick Centre 53a Market Street Downpatrick BT30 6LZ +44 (0)28 4461 2233

www.saintpatrickscountry.com

@PatricksCountry twitter
Saint Patricks Country

Newry Visitor Information Centre

Bagenal's Castle Castle Street Newry BT34 2BY +44 (0)28 3031 3170 Armagh County Museum +44 (0)28 3752 3070 | http://nmni.com/acm

The Market Place Theatre, Armagh +44 (0)28 3752 1821 www.marketplacearmagh.com

Navan Centre and Fort, Armagh +44(0)28 3752 9644 | www.navan.com

Downpatrick and County Down Railway +44 (0)28 4461 2233 | www.downrail.co.uk

Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick +44 (0)28 4461 0747 | www.downartscentre.com

Down Cathedral, Downpatrick +44 (0)28 4461 4922 | www.downcathedral.org

Down County Museum, Downpatrick +44(0)28 4461 5218 www.downcountymuseum.com

The Saint Patrick Centre, Downpatrick +44(0)28 4461 9000 www.saintpatrickcentre.com

Saint Patrick's Festival
EXTEND YOUR STAY IN ARMAGH
DOWNPATRICK AND NEWRY

We look forward to welcoming you to the area for St Patrick's Festival.

When planning your visit why not think about extending your stay and enjoying a relaxing break with us?

A wide range of accommodation is available across the area ranging from luxurious hotels, to B&B's full of character and charm, self-catering as a home from home to camping, caravanning and even to a hostel! Something surely to suit all needs and pockets with many great offers available at this time.

Be sure to make time to relax and benefit from our warm welcome when you visit. Our eateries are outstanding, with local chefs and restaurateurs going that extra mile to give you a sense of our place on your plate. The focus is on local, but with clever twists. Stop off at our visitor attractions, watching history, science and arts come to life with the help of knowledgeable guides.

Whatever you choose, be assured of a warm and friendly welcome to this historic area.

Keep up to date with all offers and events on www.saintpatrickscountry.com | www.armagh.co.uk

a warm and friendly welcome awaits you in this historic area...

07 | Saint Patrick's Festival Armagh, Downpatrick & Newry | 08



D Wednesday 3 February - Sunday 24 April IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PATRICK Down County Museum | FREE admission

This exhibition explores the legacy of St Patrick, local landscape and culture.

D Wednesday 3 February -Sunday 31 December FROM BALLYHOSSETT TO BENGAL Down County Museum | FREE admission

This exhibition features a selection of nineteenth century medical objects and examines the career of a local Victorian doctor in India.

A Friday 5 February - Saturday 16 April RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Armagh County Museum | FREE admission

An exhibition highlighting some of the recent donations by members of the public to the museum's collection.

A Friday 19 February - Saturday 19 March **ICONS AN EXHIBITION** BY PAUL DIGBY

The Market Place Theatre, Foyer Walls FREE admission

Including oil paintings of female faces and some of Ireland's most loved writers, poets and lyricists.

A Friday 19 February - Saturday 19 March SHARED MEANING AN EXHIBITION BY SIOBHAN MCQUADE, MICHAELA **GALLAGHER AND SHELIA LAVERY**

The Market Place Theatre Gallery FREE admission

Using a variety of media to explore spaces, alterations in the natural world and relationship between self and others.

A Friday 27 Feb-Saturday 16 April CHURCH LADS BRIGADE Armagh County Museum | FREE admission

An exhibition charting the history of the Church Lads Brigade, including uniforms, badges and trophies.

D Thursday 3 March - Sunday 30 October ESSENCE OF FORM: THE APPLIED ART **COLLECTION OF DOWN COUNTY**

Down County Museum | FREE admission

This exhibition features a selection of objects from the museum's applied art collection.

D Friday 4 March - Saturday 2 April IN TRAVEL AN EXHIBITION BY KIERON BLACK

Down Arts Centre | FREE admission

The moment - can it be captured, translated, shared with another? A watercolour exhibition inspired by travels in Ireland and Europe.





& Saturday 12 March

A Thursday 10 & Friday 11 March FÉILE SCOILDRÁMAÍOCHTA ULADH 2016/ IRISH SCHOOLS DRAMA: **ULSTER FINALS 2016**

The Market Place Theatre Thursday - 10.00am, 1.30pm, 6.30pm Friday - 10.00am, 1.30pm £5/£2 concession per session

Broadcaster Lynette Fay will be the experienced Moltoir/Adjudicator at the 2016 Féile Uladh which is the Ulster Provincial Finals of the schools drama competition for plays in the Irish language.

A D Thursday 10 & Friday 11 March LOVE OR MONEY

The Market Place Theatre 8.00pm | £13/£11 concession Down Arts Centre 8.00pm | £12/£10 concession

A comedy about banks, bras and going bust, by Rosemary Jenkinson and presented by C21 Theatre Company.

D Friday 11 - Sunday 20 March SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOURS OF DOWNPATRICK

Call into Downpatrick Visitor Information Centre and pick up all the information you need to set you on your way to visit the historical attractions.

A D Friday 11 March - Sunday 20 March LIGHTING UP FOR ST PATRICK

Down Cathedral. St Patrick's Church. The Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick & St Patrick's Statue, Saul and the Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland Cathedrals in Armagh will be illuminated for the festival.

D Friday 11 March

ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL CONFERENCE Down County Museum 9.15am - 4.00pm | £20 per person

The theme of this year's conference is Treasures of St Patrick: Precious reliquaries and reminders of Ireland's patron saint.

A Friday 11 March TOMMY SMITH AND BRIAN KELLOCK The Market Place Theatre | 8.00pm | £11

Jazz saxophonist Tommy Smith and pianist Brian Kellock team up to bring you a beautiful and imaginative duo, performing up tempo classics and sublime ballads.

D Saturday 12 March GUIDED TOUR ALONG THE QUOILE

Downpatrick | 11.00am | £6 Booking through www.lecalepeninsula.com

A Saturday 12 March 🐺 **CELEBRATE ST PATRICK: FESTIVAL CHORAL EVENT**

St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Armagh 8.00pm | Free Pre-booking essential through The Market Place Theatre

A reflective and celebratory event honouring St Patrick. This atmospheric and imaginative event will combine some of Ireland's greatest choirs with actors, singers and special guest artists to name but a few. Event to be filmed for future broadcast.

D Saturday 12 March

CELTIC SOUL Down Arts Centre 8.00pm (bar from 7.00pm) £14/£12 concession

Celtic Soul return to celebrate one of the truly great singer/songwriters of all time; our own Van Morrison.

A Saturday 12 March "THE YEAR OF THE HIKER" BY 10HN B KEANE

Presented by Ballymacnab Youth Drama Group. The Market Place Theatre 8.00pm | £10/£8 concession

This classic play tells the story of the "Hiker" who disappears and leaves his wife to fend for herself and bring up their three children in difficult times.









Sunday 13, Monday 14 & Tuesday 15 March

D Sunday 13 March

JIMMY'S TEN AND FAMILY FUN DAY

Ballydugan Road Industrial Estate & St Patrick Square, Downpatrick 11.00am Run | £13/£15 for fun run 10.30am - 1.00pm | Family fun day | Free Contact Joe Ouinn +44 (0)79 3321 4894

D Sunday 13 March ST PATRICK'S LANDING & FOOD BANQUET

Inch Abbey, Downpatrick 2.00pm - 5.00pm | FREE admission

The Re-enactment of St Patrick's landing will take place at Inch Abbey, using the river Ouoile where you will have the opportunity to purchase food from the medieval banquet. FREE Park & Ride available from Down Business Park from 1.00pm.





A Sunday 13 March ARMAGH PIPERS CLUB ANNUAL CONCERT

The Market Place Theatre | 3.00pm Bookings via caitlin@armaghpipers.org/ +44 (0)28 3752 8188 or on the door

The Pipers Club present their annual concert, celebrating their work. Three hundred performers aged from 4 - 74 will fill the stage with music and song, solo singers, groups and instrumentalists.

D Monday 14 March

ST PATRICK AROUND THE WORLD -FESTIVAL LECTURE

The Saint Patrick Centre 7.30pm | FREE admission

The lecturer will be Dr Tim Campbell, Director of The Saint Patrick Centre and well known expert on the life of St Patrick.

A Monday 14 & Tuesday 15 March FÉIS ARD MHACHA

The Market Place Theatre

Events ongoing throughout the day A two day festival of Irish language competition organised by Gael Linn.

D Tuesday 15 March

MONDAY'S CHILD BY BRENDAN MURRAY

Down Arts Centre 10.00am & 11.30am | £5 per child Recommended for 4-7 year olds and families

Monday's Child tells the simple poetic story of the unique bond between a little girl and an old woman suffering memory loss.

A Tuesday 15 March DIGGING UP YOUR ROOTS-**FAMILY HISTORY FAIR**

Armagh City Library 1.30pm - 7.30 pm | FREE admission

Family history is one of the world's most popular pastimes, with interest in this subject growing all the time. Recent years have seen a wide range of new resources becoming available for those who wish to dig more deeply into their own past. The City Chapter, in partnership with Armagh>> City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, will host a drop-in Family History Fair, bringing together expert advice and guidance along with practical help, for those seeking to discover their local roots. With an array of stalls offering help and information and a range of expert talks on how and where to take your research further, this will be an occasion not to be missed, whether you are just starting out or wishing to take your family history to the next stage.

A Tuesday 15 March AN EVENING WITH PATRICK

The Market Place Theatre | 8.00pm FREE admission | Pre-booking is essential

Armagh Cathedrals Partnership invite you to an Evening with Patrick at The Market Place Theatre, Armagh. In addition to some music, story, poetry and prayer, a guest speaker will invite those present to reflect on "Patrick and Ireland today". It promises to be a very special evening as we celebrate the St Patrick's Festival in Armagh. Admission or the evening is free and light refreshments will be served.

Sunday 13 March ST PATRICK'S **LANDING & FOOD**

Inch Abbey, Downpatrick 2.00pm - 5.00pm | FREE admission















Wednesday 16 March

A D Wednesday 16 - Sunday 20 March SESSION TRAILS ACROSS ARMAGH AND DOWNPATRICK Various times **FREE admission**

Featuring traditional music, family friendly sessions and other live music, there is entertainment across the area to suit everyone.

Please see www.saintpatrickscountry.com & www.armagh.co.uk for full details of the performance times and venues.

A Wednesday 16 March **NIALL DE BURCA**

The Market Place Theatre 11.00am - schools performance 6.30pm - family performance FREE admission | Pre-booking is essential

Tales of ancient Ireland from Niall who has performed across the world and is renowned for his shows full of energy, wit and superb timing.

D Wednesday 16 March REPTILE DISPLAY

The Saint Patrick Centre 1.00pm - 4.00pm | FREE admission Archbishop Richard Clarke and Archbishop Eamon Martin, will speak about what St Patrick means to them. In conversation with BBC journalist Tara Mills the two will discuss how St Patrick's words still resonate and have relevance for many of the challenges we face today.

D Wednesday 16 March DOWN TO DINE FOOD TOUR

Denvirs, Downpatrick 6.00pm | £49.50 per person +44 (0)28 4461 2012 www.denvirs.com

This unique Food Tour starts the evening at Denvirs before moving to The Cuan, Strangford & Curran's Bar, Chapeltown for a three course meal. The cost includes tour guide, four courses and accompanying beverages and transportation to and from Denvirs.





7.30pm | £8 per adult, Under 12's FREE

Beoga (gaelic for 'lively') have become one of the most exciting, popular and influential groups in modern traditional Irish music. Their unique sound features the twin duelling accordions of Damian McKee and multi-instrumentalist Seán Óg Graham. pianist Liam Bradley, four times All-Ireland bodhrán champion Eamon Murray and Niamh Dunne, on vocals and fiddle. They will be joined by renowned Irish Dancers Zoe Talbot, Nawal Elbadri, Callum Kelly, Colin Fleck including our home grown Co. Down based Celtic Storm who have toured the world in various shows.

A Wednesday 16 March **BRIAN FINNEGAN AND FRIENDS**

The Market Place Theatre 9.00pm | £15

Brian Finnegan, flute and whistle player from Armagh was frontman with the group "Flook" for more than 13 years, touring the world and recording three highly acclaimed studio albums with the band.

CHURCH SERVICES Wed 16 March ST MALACHY'S CHURCH 7.30pm Vigil Mass Thurs 17 March ST MALACHY'S CHURCH 8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass ST PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC **CATHEDRAL SERVICES** 9.00am (Mass in Irish) 11.00am Mass ST PATRICK'S CHURCH OF IRELAND CATHEDRAL 10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Thursday 17 March ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT Armagh City Centre ST PATRICK'S DAY 12.30pm - 4.00pm | FREE admission **ARMAGH** Crowds gathering in Armagh city centre will be entertained by a full programme of music including the extremely popular "The Nooks". The music will stop while the procession passes and will then continue on into the afternoon as the city celebrates. Your MC for the afternoon will be broadcaster Lynette Fay. 17 | Saint Patrick's Festival A ARMAGH EVENT D DOWNPATRICK EVENT FREE BUS SERVICE AVAILABLE - pg 06

Thursday 17 March ST PATRICK'S DAY **ARMAGH**

ST PATRICK'S CARNIVAL **PROCESSION**

Departs from the Palace Demesne 1.30pm | FREE admission

Celebrate St Patrick in Armagh with a spectacular display of colour, music, dance and entertainment for all to enjoy. The theme for this year's procession is Feasts and Wild Beasts so expect the fun, the furry and the fantastical as the procession makes its way through the city centre. The procession route is from the Palace Demesne, to Monaghan Road, Irish Street, Ogle Street, Thomas Street, Market Street, and English Street, onto Cathedral Road and past the Shambles Market before finishing at the grounds of Cathedral Road Recreation Centre.

ST PATRICK'S FAMILY FUN DAY

The Shambles Yard 2.30pm - 5.00pm | FREE admission

St Patrick's Day Celebrations continue with a family fun afternoon in the Shambles Yard. Let your creativity flow in the wild beasts craft corner and learn the art of puppeteering. Be entertained by the talent on the community stage or take part in family activities pitting your wits against the last man standing.

celebrate....a spectacular display of colour, music, dance and entertainment for all to enjoy!



DISCOVERING THE STARS AT ARMAGH - A TALK HOSTED BY ARMAGH OBSERVATORY

The Market Place Theatre 11.15am | FREE admission Pre-booking is essential

An engaging and enlightening talk hosted by Armagh Observatory focussing on recent developments in astronomy, at an introductory level suitable for all.

GUIDED TOUR OF ARMAGH OBSERVATORY

Armagh Observatory 2.30pm | FREE admission Pre-booking is essential through Armagh Visitor Information Centre

A guided tour of the main Observatory building, the Human Orrery, and an explanation of the new multi-speaker outdoor sound installation "around North" by award-winning composer Robert Jarvis.

ST PATRICK'S TEA PARTY

Synod Hall, St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Armagh 3.00pm - 7.00pm | FREE admission

A special tea party to celebrate St Patrick in the lovely surroundings of this unique hall. Enjoy a special afternoon tea as well as a feast of Irish traditional music and song.

'FROM PAGAN TO ST PATRICK'

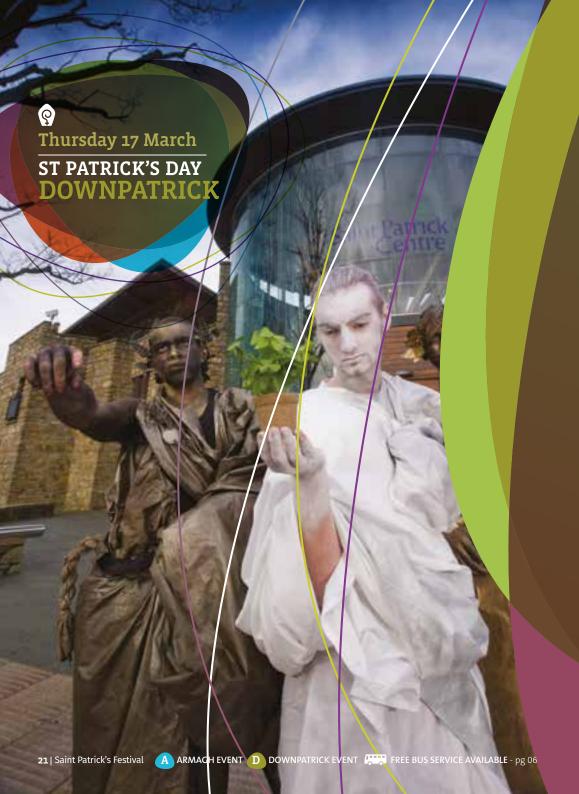
Navan Centre & Fort 6.00pm | Adults £12 Children £5 (suitable for 8years +) Pre-booking is essential



Armagh Theatre Group, a community drama group based in Abbey Lane Theatre, Armagh, will perform a family friendly show, which takes a fun and light hearted approach to the tales of St Patrick. Audience participation is encouraged, but not compulsory, so come along and find out about the 'not really true's stories surrounding Ireland's patron saint. The evening starts with music and traditional stew and finishes with a procession to light beacons near the Navan Fort, chasing 'the snakes' out of Ireland.

...light beacons near the Navan Fort and chase 'the snakes' out of Ireland!!!





Thursday 17 March ST PATRICK'S DAY DOWNPATRICK

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION, WITH GEORGE NEWELL

St Patrick's Church Of Ireland, Saul 8.00am - 8.45am Buses to Saul Church will depart from The Mall approaching Down Cathedral. 9.00am service starts

MASS IN IRISH

Followed by Blessing of the Shamrock St Patrick's Church, Downpatrick | 9.00am

ST PATRICK'S DAY WALK

Castle Ward, Strangford Registration starts at 9.30am, closes at 10.30am, Walk starts at 10.45am FREE admission | Contact Festival Office

PILGRIMAGE PRAYER WALK FROM SAUL TO DOWN CATHEDRAL

St Patrick's Church of Ireland, Saul | 10.00am

MASS IN ENGLISH

St Patrick's Church, Downpatrick | 10.30am

A 45 minute pilgrimage walk from St Patrick's Church of Ireland, Saul to Down Cathedral, Downpatrick.

ST PATRICK'S FAMILY DAY

Down Arts Centre | 10.00am - 5.00pm FREE admission

Come and enjoy circus performers, artists and storytellers, arts and crafts, clay pot throwing demonstrations, hand and drum carding and spinning.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Down County Museum
10.00am - 6.00pm | FREE admission

ARTISAN FOOD MARKET St Patrick Square 10.00am - 6.00pm

The market will offer excellent food produce of local provenance in a traditional style market place so why not ensure you visit and enjoy a tasty treat.





ST PATRICK'S DAY FREE PARK AND RIDE SERVICE

Operates from Downpatrick Racecourse from 11.00am - 8.00pm.

SHAMROCK STEAM TRAINS

Downpatrick and County Down Railway 12.00noon - 5.00pm | Costs applicable. Park & Ride from Inch Abbey to Downpatrick town centre. Visit the 12th Century ruins linked to St Patrick.

CROSS COMMUNITY SERVICE

Down Cathedral | 11.45am

The preacher at this service will be Bishop Harold Miller. The theme will be walking in the steps of St Patrick.

FESTIVAL FUN

St Patrick Square | Starting at 12.00noon FREE admission

Full of activities for the whole family. Enjoy face painting, stilt walkers and balloon modelling.

Thursday 17 March

ST PATRICK'S DAY DOWNPATRICK

U105 ROAD SHOW St Patrick Square 12.00noon - 5.00pm



U105's Frank Mitchell and guest will lead the festival. Enjoy a fabulous link-up of special guests with music, fun, games and craic that will entertain you throughout St Patrick's Day.

LAYING OF WREATH ON ST PATRICK'S GRAVE

Down Cathedral | 1.15pm

HISTORICAL COACH TOUR - LIFE AND TIMES OF ST PATRICK

Departs from Down County Museum 1.30pm - 4.30pm (approx) £3.50, purchased from the Festival Office

Historical Coach Tour led by local historian Albert Colmer visiting places associated with St Patrick. Tea/coffee will be served en route. (Tours subject to sufficient numbers and weather conditions, walking shoes recommended.)

JUNIOR JIMMY'S ROAD RACES

Market St, Downpatrick | 2.00pm | £1

A series of races for primary school children, while awaiting the arrival of the Carnival Parade.

Contact Joe Ouinn +44 (0)79 3321 4894

VINTAGE VEHICLE CAVALCADE

2.15pm | Contact Eugene Morgan +44 (0)78 0387 5754

Departing from the old Council Depot on the Strangford Road and travelling to Down Leisure Centre.



The St Patrick's Festival 2016 receives funding from OFMDFM.

BRIAN FINNEGAN & FRIENDS - OPEN AIR CONCERT

St Patrick Square | 2.15pm &3.45pm | Free

Brian Finnegan, frontman with the group "Flook" for more than 13 years will be joined by John McSherry on pipes, Donal O'Connor & Niall Murphy on fiddles, John Jo Kelly on bodhran & Paul Meehan on guitar.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CROSS COMMUNITY CARNIVAL PARADE

This cross-community event, the centrepiece of the celebration, will be a spectacular cavalcade of floats, bands, fancy dress and lots of attractions!

This year's theme will be 'Feasts & Wild Beasts'. The parade will assemble on the Ardglass Road at 1.00pm and depart at 2.30pm for the town centre where it will arrive at approximately 2.50pm.

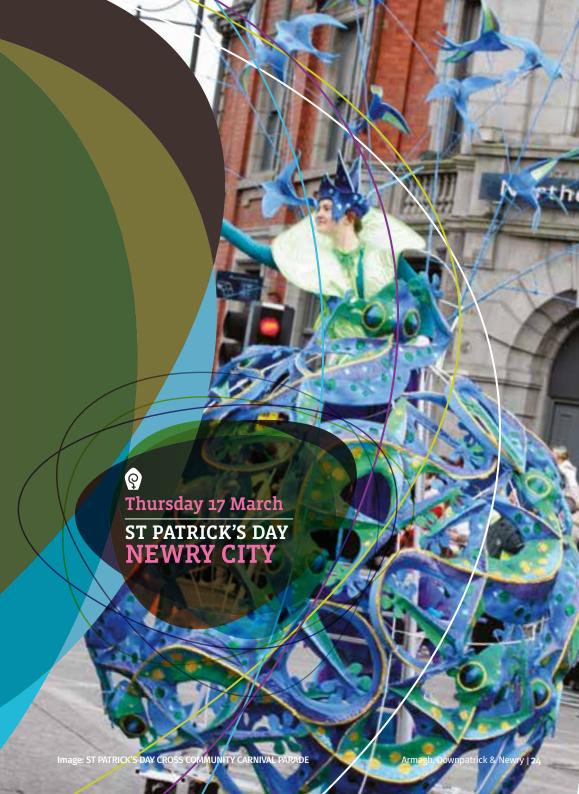
The parade route follows Ardglass Road, Edward Street, John Street, Irish Street and Market Street.

Face painting available at Knocknashinna Playpark from 1.30pm - 4.00pm

DUKE SPECIAL - PIANO & PAGES TOUR Down Arts Centre

8.00pm (bar from 7.00pm) | £15

Duke Special presents a magical show exploring forgotten old dusty manuscripts along with songs from his most recent and well-received album, Look Out Machines!, along with many of his usual live favourites.





Friday 11 to Saturday 19 March

ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL EVENTS **NEWRY CITY**

Friday 11 - Saturday 19 March **CULLEN'S FUN FAIR** St Christopher Park, Newry

Saturday 12 March RITH 2016 RELAY RUN 2.00pm

A relay run to promote the Irish language in an athletic, lively and different manner. If you are interested in taking part or buying a kilometre please contact: eolas@rith.ie or visit: www.rith.ie

Wednesday 16 March AN EVENING OF MUSIC WITH **VIOLEEN TRIO**

Newry & Mourne Museum 7.30pm | £3

Pre-booking is essential +44 (0)28 3031 3178

Thursday 17 March ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

Newry & Mourne Museum 10.00am - 11.30am | £1.50 per child, must be accompanied by a parent/guardian **Pre-booking is essential** +44 (0)28 3031 3178

SEAN HOLLYWOOD ARTS CENTRE

Entertainment includes traditional music by 'Sonas Harp Ensemble' and Henry McDonald and Friends. Free Children's arts & crafts workshops, entertainment. Food being served all day in Courtney's Restaurant.



The St Patrick's Festival 2016 receives funding from OFMDFM.

ST PATRICK'S DAY - VARIETY MARKET

John Mitchell Place | 9.00am - 5.00pm Entertainment from 11.00am: Warrenpoint Comhaltas / Traditional Street Céili with Raymond Carroll Fear a 'Ti and Long Note Céili Band / Face Painting, Cartoon Characters, Food Stalls & much more.

CROSS COMMUNITY CARNIVAL PARADE THEME - FEASTS AND WILD BEASTS

12.00noon

Departing from the Ouays Shopping and Leisure Centre, Albert Basin, Newry

MUSICAL AFTERNOON

Newry & Mourne Museum 1.00pm - 3.00pm | £3

An afternoon with traditional and not so traditional music and a bowl of stew. Pre-booking is essential +44 (0)28 3031 3178

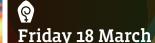
OPEN AIR CONCERT

Events Space, Hill Street, Newry 1.30pm - 5.00pm With compere Gene Fitzpatrick, enjoy Declan Nerney and his band and The Housem8's.

FESTIVAL FUN

Hill Street | 1.30pm - 5.00 pm

Enjoy free children's on-street entertainment, street trading and charity stalls during St Patrick's day.



D Friday 18 March

GUIDED DOWNPATRICK WALKING TOUR Downpatrick | 2.00pm | £6 Booking through www.lecalepeninsula.com

D Friday 18 March

FAMILY DRIVE IN MOVIE - MINIONS

Downpatrick Racecourse | 7.30pm (Please arrive 1 hr prior to movie start time) FREE admission | Pre-booking is essential





A Friday 18 March CELTIC SPIRIT

The Market Place Theatre 8.00pm | £20.00

Join Karl McGuckin (baritone), Liam Lawton, Andrea Begley (winner of BBC's The Voice 2014) and a musical ensemble including the choir of St Catherine's College, Armagh, under the musical direction of Mark Cahill for a night of traditional and spiritual music in celebration of St Patrick. Come and hear the haunting melodies of St Patrick's heartland resonate in this truly unique performance. Liam Lawton is a platinum selling liturgical composer and singer of international renown. His music is now implicit in all Catholic services and has been played all over the world. Karl McGuckin is now heralded as one of Ireland's leading male classical crossover artists. With a background in opera and musical theatre, Karl recently sold out the Cathedral in Armagh with his Candelight Christmas Concert and can be found on tour with Celtic Tenors. Andrea Begley rose to international prominence following her meteoric success on BBC's The Voice. Having now sung in some of the biggest stages the British Isles has to offer, Andrea will fit in beautifully to our concert.











IRY CITY PARAD



D Friday 18 March THE VIRGIN FATHER BY JIMMY MCALEAVEY

Down Arts Centre 8.00pm (bar from 7.00pm) £12|£10 concession | Guidance for 14+ years

Mary has disappeared; Joe is being hunted down. He urgently needs to understand what has happened to his family if he is to save himself....

A Friday 18 March SONGS FROM THE HEART- A CELEBRATION OF FEMALE SINGER-SONGWRITERS The Market Place Theatre | 8.00pm | £10

An evening of wonderful original songs acoustic instruments and exquisite vocals, with three of Northern Ireland's foremost female songwriters - Mandy Bingham, Janet Henry and Edelle McMahon.

A Friday 18 March **FESTIVAL CLUB WITH MUSIC** FROM CONNLA

The Market Place Bar & Bistro 10.30pm until late | FREE admission

A D Saturday 19 March FOLLOWING IN THE SPIRITUAL FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PATRICK

The bus departs Downpatrick at 9.15am for the arrival at the Navan Centre at 10.45am to join Armagh patrons to commence the pilgrimage walk. Following visits of the Armagh sites, all patrons will depart for Downpatrick at 12.30pm to complete the trail. Armagh patrons will depart Downpatrick at 8.00pm.>>

£12.50 per person, including refreshments, under 12's free with an accompanying adult Please wear suitable clothing and footwear Pre-booking is essential through either **Visitor Information Centre**

An opportunity to follow in the spiritual footsteps of St Patrick commencing at Navan Centre & Fort, through Armagh City to Slieve Patrick. Saul and Downpatrick. This journey will also include a screening of the film "Footsteps of Patrick," and a night of traditional music with Cathal Hayden, Donal Murphy and Seamie O'Dowd.

Saturday 19 March **BUSKING COMPETITIONS IN**

ARMAGH AND DOWNPATRICK

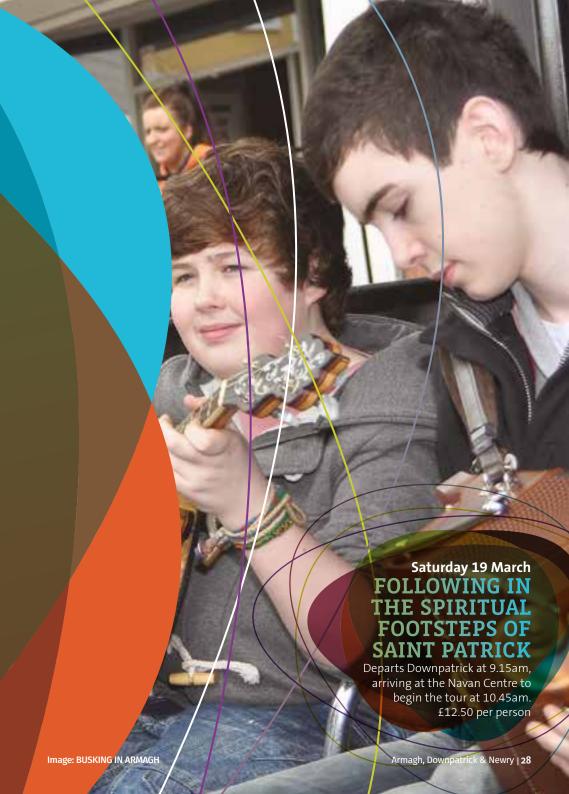
A Armagh City Centre

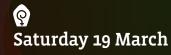
11.00am - 4.00pm | FREE admission (Under 16s 11.00am - 1.00pm 16+ 2.00pm - 4.00pm) Musicians will gather to compete in Armagh City for St Patrick's busking competition with a prize fund of £2500 up for grabs. Contact Armagh Visitor Information Centre for information & registration forms.

D Downpatrick Town Centre 2.00pm - 4.00pm | FREE admission Open to any genre, under 16 and over 16 categories. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd for each category with a prize fund of £2500. Contact Downpatrick Visitor Information Centre for information & registration forms.

A Saturday 19 March THE MERMAN'S TALE The Market Place Theatre 11.00am & 2.00pm | £6

Banyan Theatre Company's production of a traditional tale by W.B. Yeats, about Jack a fisherman who goes on a quest to find a merman. Admission includes free post-show activities.





D Saturday 19 March 'MAKE IT LOCAL'

MAKE IT LOCAL

ARTISAN MARKET

Scotch Street, Downpatrick 11.00am - 4.00pm | FREE admission

Local producers, supporting the Newry, Mourne and Down 'Make it Local' campaign, are holding an Artisan Market offering a variety of locally produced products and crafts.

A Saturday 19 March EARLY ARMAGH, ST PATRICK AND THE VIKINGS - A TALK BY GREER RAMSAY, **CURATOR OF ARCHAEOLOGY AT NMNI**

Armagh County Museum 12.00noon | FREE admission

Pre-booking is essential

Armagh was Patrick's chosen City and the most important religious centre in Ireland. This status and accompanying wealth made it a lucrative target for Viking attacks. This illustrated talk charts the rise of Armagh and explores some of the remarkable objects from this period.

D Saturday 19 March IRISH DANCE WORKSHOPS

The Saint Patrick Centre 2.30pm-3.30pm | FREE admission Suitable for all abilities

D Saturday 19 March LAUNCH OF ST PATRICK FILM

The Saint Patrick Centre 6.00pm | FREE admission

A 30 minute film portraying the story of St Patrick and his links to the Christian heritage hubs of Armagh & Downpatrick.

A Saturday 19 March **GOSPEL MUSIC CELEBRATION**

Armagh City Hotel 7.00pm | £15 per person available from www.harmonyrecords.co.uk Lorraine 07968276448 or Faith Mission Bookshops in Armagh, Portadown or Lurgan.

The 10th Annual Gospel Music Celebration features the USA's Freedom Quartet and includes groups Revelation, Pathway and Justified and many others.

A Saturday 19 March PATRICK'S SHAMROCK SUPPER

Navan Centre & Fort 7.30pm | Adults £20/Children £10 (suitable for 12 years +) Pre-booking is essential

When Patrick arrived in Ireland as a slave his life and diet were transformed. Gone were the comforts of life as a Roman Briton, replaced instead by the life of a humble shepherd. The lands became his larder and he ate a simple diet, foraging food and developing into the man we know and revere today. This evening you will get to dine like Patrick and enjoy a recreation of how Patrick persuaded Darragh to provide the land in Armagh to build his first church.

Northern Ireland & Drink 2016



Saturday 19 March

A Saturday 19 March THE ULSTER ORCHESTRA

St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral 7.30pm | £15.00 Tickets through The Market Place Theatre

St Patrick was regarded as both a visionary and a man of the earth; working as a shepherd on the lower slopes of Slemish but he also experienced a vision on the mountain's summit. In this special concert, The Ulster Orchestra makes a very welcome return to Armagh, under the baton of Robert Houlihan and with two special guest soloists with music specially chosen to celebrate the relationship between the high and low of the spiritual and the earthly as reflected in our human experience. The programme includes Handel - Overture: Il pastor fido, Haydn - Symphony No.83 La Poule, Bach -Sheep may safely graze, Handel - Organ Concerto in F, HWV295 The Cuckoo and the nightingale, Hovhaness - Alleluia and fugue Mozart - Exsultate jubilate, Haydn -Symphony No.30 Alleluia



D Saturday 19 March AN EVENING OF TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC WITH CATHAL HAYDEN. DONAL MURPHY AND SEAMIE O'DOWD.

The Saint Patrick Centre 7.30pm | £5 per adult

Three of the biggest names in Traditional Irish Music circles. A night not to be missed!!

A Saturday 19 March MOYA BRENNAN

The Market Place Theatre 8.00pm | £22.50

Moya Brennan rose to prominence with Clannad, with a pioneering approach to traditional music and their sound has become the benchmark for the Celtic music genre. Clannad, with their pioneering approach to traditional music garnered them 15 million record sales worldwide and a string of awards, including a Grammy in 1998. Her live solo shows are with all the musicality and power of Clannad but with added, heart-warming intimacy and will be a rich and moving experience.

A Saturday 19 March THE NUALAS - GLITTERBOMB TOUR The Market Place Theatre 8.30pm | £17.50

Ireland's favourite all lady musical comedy sensations The Nualas are jetting in for one night only, with brilliant new songs, red hot new chat, blistering new shoes - they will leave you helpless with laughter and delirious with pleasure!





A Saturday 19 March FESTIVAL CLUB - PRANCING PONY

The Market Place Bar & Bistro 10.30pm until late | FREE admission 3 former members of local group Castlestreet provide a mix of rock pop and folk standards alongside a few original songs

A Sunday 20 March ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE **NAVAN CENTRE & FORT**

11.00am -3.00pm (FREE drop in)

Make your own Viking, dress an Egyptian figure, try your hand at making a T.Rex, rub some coins, dig up bones in the sand pit and finally, meet our very own Indiana Jones!

D Sunday 20 March **GUIDED TOUR - STRUELL WELLS MEMORY WALK**

11.00am | £15 (includes lunch) Booking via: www.lecalepeninsula.com

D Sunday 20 March

ULSTER NATIONAL RACE MEETING Downpatrick Racecourse Gates open 12.00noon with first race at 2.10pm Adults £10 Children Under 14 free

Hospitality options available

Feature race meeting of the year, attracts large crowds, come and witness the best of National hunt racing on your doorstep. Sponsored by Toals Bookmakers.

For further information please visit www.downpatrickracecourse.co.uk

A Sunday 20 March CONNLA

The Market Place Bar & Bistro 12.30pm | FREE admission No booking necessary

Connla are an exciting new band with strong traditional roots as well as influences from across the globe. Their sensitive and innovative arrangements of traditional and modern folk songs and tunes have earned them praise across the folk community.

A Sunday 20 March WALK THE EMANIA WAY

Starting at The Market Place Theatre 12.30pm | FREE admission

Pre-booking is essential

through Armagh Visitor Information Centre by 12.00noon on 19 March Please wear suitable clothing and footwear

Experience walking part of the ancient road to Emania. View the ancient St Patrick's well and walk in the steps of Cuchulain and the Red Branch Knights. Visit the old Callan Bridge and step into the pedestrian refuges. Listen to the historic tales which took place on the Callan river, learn about the different saints associated with Armagh and much more. As part of this event the St Patrick's film will be shown at the centre. Lunch will be available at the Navan Centre at an additional cost.

Dogs must be on leads.

...walk in the steps of Cuchulain and the Red Branch Knights...





Sunday 20 March

A Sunday 20 March **TUMBLE CIRCUS STAR MAN** The Market Place Theatre | 2.00pm | £5

Star man follows the journey of one man and his life as a circus artist, dad and clown - an energetic mix of stand-up, slapstick, sequins and... cardboard!

A Sunday 20 March THE ARCO STRING QUARTET Chapel at The Palace, Armagh 2.15pm | £5 Pre-booking is essential through

The Market Place Theatre

One of Ireland's leading professional string quartets, this recital will feature classical music as well as adaptation of some of Ireland's wonderful traditional and folk canon.

A Sunday 20 March ORGAN RECITAL

St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral 4.15pm | FREE admission no booking necessary

A recital of organ music at St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral

A Sunday 20 March FLANN'S YER ONLY MAN

The Market Place Theatre 8.00pm | £10

An engaging and fascinating entertainment based on the life and work of Flann O'Brien, aka Myles na Gopaleen aka Brian O'Nolan (1911-1966) widely regarded as Ireland's finest satirist since Jonathan Swift.



visit during the 366 days of celebration and discover all of the deliciousness for yourself. With goings-on galore, there's no better time to enjoy a true taste

of Northern Ireland.













