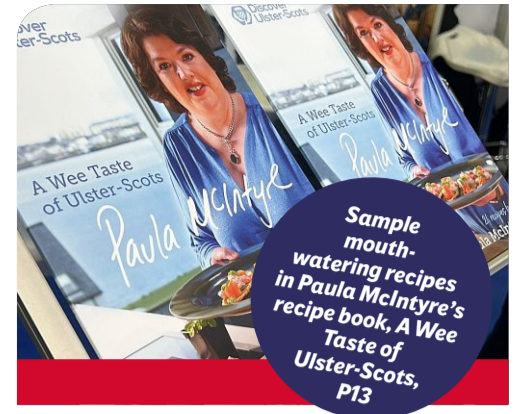


# the Ulster-Scot

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2024



◆ There was a significant Ulster-Scots display as part of an Armed Forces Day event at Loughshore



◆ Lisbellaw Primary School pupils enjoyed live history reenactments during their return trip to Hawick in Scotland



◆ Pupils sign up for fun at the Ulster-Scots Summer School programme 2024



◆ Discover what's happening at community festivals sponsored by the Ulster-Scots Agency this summer





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### Discover Ulster-Scots

Promoting the language, heritage & culture of Ulster-Scots in Northern Ireland, the island of Ireland, and the wider Ulster-Scots diaspora.

[www.discoverulsterscots.com](http://www.discoverulsterscots.com)

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New Ulster-Scots resources are now available via the Twinkl platform

## New Ulster-Scots teaching resources launched

To celebrate our new partnership with Twinkl, the Ulster-Scots Agency is excited to announce a series of new educational resources.

Created and designed exclusively by Twinkl, the resources are for use by educators and include Ulster-Scots recipes, vocabulary and language PowerPoints, as well as activity sheets covering a range of topics including numbers and the weather. Teaching resources focusing on cultural traditions, such as music and Highland dance, are also available.

Karen Stewart, Director of Corporate Services, Ulster-Scots Agency, said: "We are thrilled to announce the successful development of these fantastic resources and we would like to thank Twinkl for engaging with the Agency to make them available. We are excited about the positive impact it will have for teachers and educators

in classroom-based settings but also for our community to use at summer schools and Ulster-Scots events."

Susan Ferguson, Northern Ireland Country Manager, added: "Listening to feedback from teachers in our community, it was clear that there was a need for more resources on the Ulster-Scots language. Therefore, we were delighted to establish a partnership with the Ulster-Scots Agency, in order to help fulfil our Twinkl promises and 'Help Those Who Teach'. We look forward to what our partnership holds for the future."

To view the range of resources, please visit [www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk) and search for Ulster-Scots. Further resources will be available soon, but if you would like to suggest a particular topic or theme, please contact [education@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk](mailto:education@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk).

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Or find us on social media:  
Facebook – @UlsterScotsAgency  
Instagram – @discoverulsterscots  
X (formerly Twitter) – @UlsterScotsAgen

[www.ulsterscotsagency.com](http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com)

  
**Ulster-Scots Agency**  
Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch

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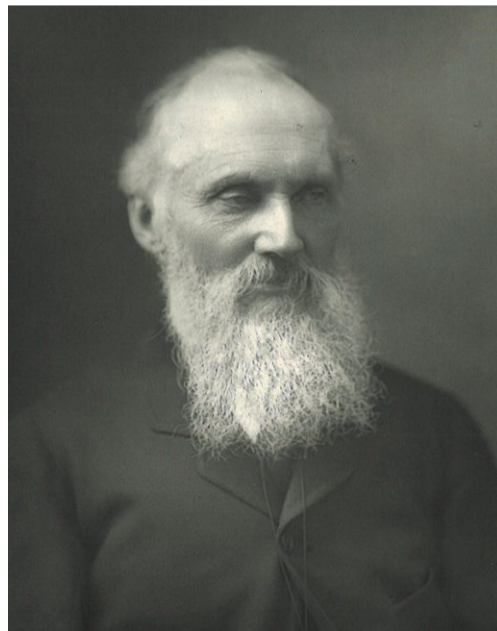
# Lord Kelvin – ‘The Greatest Son of Ulster’

There have been many great Ulster-Scots and one of the greatest was undoubtedly William Thomson, Baron Kelvin (1824-1907). The greatest scientist of the Victorian age, he was born in Belfast 200 years ago, on June 26, 1824, of an Ulster-Scots father, James Thomson, and a Scottish-born mother, Margaret Gardner.

The Thomson family had been in Ulster since 1641 when John Thomson left Scotland and settled near Ballynahinch. The great-great-grandson of that original settler was James Thomson (1786-1849), who was the father of Lord Kelvin. James was educated at an academy run by Rev Samuel Edgar in the townland of Ballykine, and at Glasgow University. In 1814 he was appointed headmaster of the school of ‘arithmetic, book-keeping and geography’ in the newly established Belfast Academical Institution and the following year, Professor of Mathematics in the collegiate department.

## Romance and marriage

His mother, Margaret Gardner was from Glasgow, but she came to Belfast for a lengthy visit in the summer of 1816. She had been invited to stay with her cousin, Dr William Cairns, a Scottish minister and his wife. Cairns was Professor of Logic in the



A portrait of Lord Kelvin by Victorian studio photographers W. & D. Downey

By Nelson McCausland,  
Chairman, Ulster-Scots Community Network

collegiate department of the Belfast Academical Institution.

While Margaret was in Belfast, she met James Thomson at a dinner in the home of Dr William Drennan and the young couple were married in the summer of 1817. James Thomson built a house opposite the Academical Institution and his son William was born there on June 26, 1824.

## University at 10 years

After the death of his mother, who was buried in Clifton Street Cemetery in Belfast, his father moved to a professorship at Glasgow University and William entered the university as a student at the age of ten.

Afterwards he had a brilliant career at Cambridge University and then at the age of 22 he was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy at Glasgow, a position he held for 53 years.

One of his most notable achievements came in 1848 when he introduced the idea of ‘absolute zero’. This is the point at which atoms in an object stop moving and so cannot get any colder, and by experimentation and extrapolation he calculated this as  $-273^{\circ}$  Centigrade. This led on to the Kelvin temperature scale which bears his name and to degrees Kelvin.

## Kelvin-Planck Law of Thermodynamics

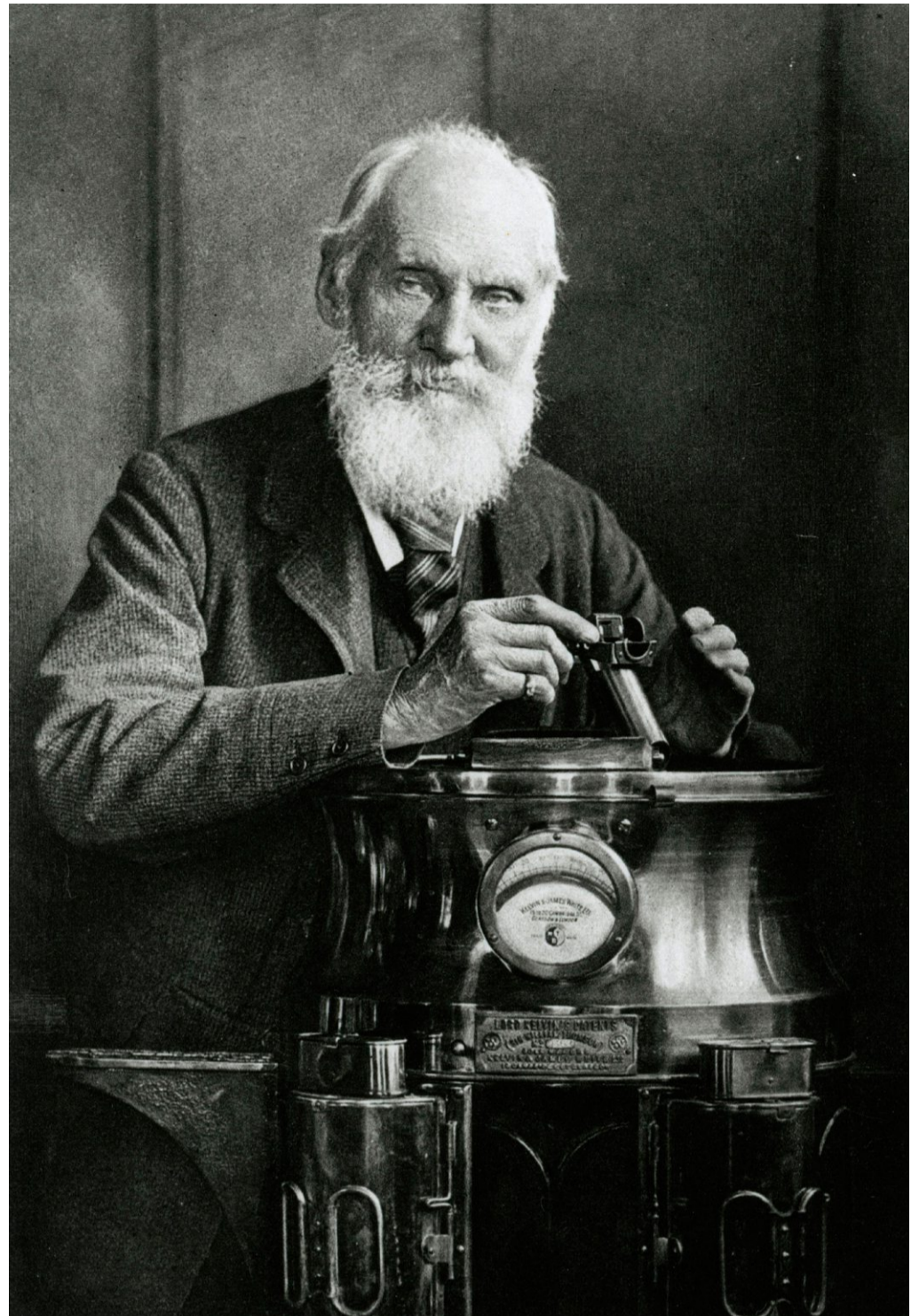
His contributions to physics are too numerous to list but his name is particularly associated with his laws of thermodynamics. He was one of the first people to suggest that the rushing waters of the Niagara Falls should be used to generate electricity.



AS CHIEF CONSULTANT TO THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL UNDERWATER CABLE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC AND FOR THIS WORK HE WAS KNIGHTED IN 1866.



A bronze statue of Lord Kelvin is in Botanic Park, Belfast, his home city



William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin, Belfast-born mathematical physicist and engineer

As chief consultant to the Atlantic Telegraph Company he was involved in the design and construction of the first successful underwater cable across the Atlantic and for this work he was knighted in 1866. He retired in 1899 but continued to carry out experiments and write scientific papers.

## Privy Council

Thomson received many other honours and in 1892 he was made a peer with the title Baron Kelvin of Largs. Then in 1902 he was appointed a member of the Privy Council and one of the first members of the new Order of Merit. He was also a member of the Royal Victorian Order and President of the Royal Society.

Kelvin was a devout Christian, with a strong evangelical faith that was central to his life, but he was not a narrow denominationalist and had friendships and associations across the evangelical denominations.

In politics he was for many years a Liberal, as indeed were many other Scots and Ulster-Scots, but when William E. Gladstone, leader of the Liberal Party, embraced ‘home rule’ for Ireland, Kelvin was one of those who left the Liberal Party and became a Liberal Unionist. By 1891 he was president of the West of Scotland Liberal Unionist Association and spoke out in defence of the Union.

## Westminster Burial

He died at his Scottish home, Netherhall, in Largs, on December 17, 1907. He was buried in Westminster Abbey in London, close to the graves of Sir Issac Newton and other great scientists.

A bronze memorial statue of Kelvin was unveiled in the Botanic Gardens in Belfast on June 19, 1913 and later that year another



Portraits of Lord and Lady Kelvin, featured in The Illustrated London News, 20 June 1896.

memorial statue was unveiled in Kelvin Grove Park in Glasgow. Earl Shaftesbury presided at the ceremony in Belfast and the speaker was another Ulster-Scots scientist, Sir Joseph Larmor, who was the Unionist MP for Cambridge University from 1911 to 1922.

The centenary of Kelvin’s birth was celebrated in Belfast in 1924 and on that occasion Professor Richard W. Livingstone, Vice-Chancellor of Queen’s University, said that Kelvin, as a Belfast man by birth and blood, belonged to them all. They honoured him not only as one of the greatest scientists in the world but also, as in the intellectual field, the greatest son of Ulster.



# School Twinning programme continues to forge friendships

The School Twinning Programme, managed by the Ulster-Scots Agency, has been one of the most successful programmes we have rolled out to schools as part of our education strategy. The programme comes in two parts: East-West Twinning and North-South Twinning.

Each year, the Agency's Education Department identifies two schools – one in Scotland and one in Northern Ireland – who would have much in common, not least their ancestral roots as well as their spoken language. Once the participating schools have been identified and contacted, they begin a process of correspondence.

The pupils of both schools begin to email and write to each other, sharing information about themselves, their school, and the area they are from. The correspondence passes through the staff of both schools and this system has proven to be best practice for such contact.

In addition to the correspondence, the pupils from each school are charged with choosing a theme (in some cases the theme is chosen by the Agency with the agreement of school staff). From this, they will study the subject, compiling a written portfolio of their work. The portfolio includes the history of the school and something significant about the place they live and must tie

into Ulster-Scots heritage and traditions.

After this, the Agency will organise a visit by the Northern Ireland-based school to their counterparts in Scotland. This could be a one-day trip or could involve an overnight stay. The visit enables the children to meet their pen friends and engage with each other in a relaxed environment. They will also exchange their portfolios, so the pupils of both schools come away with a heightened awareness of the links that exist between Ulster and Scotland and a little more knowledge about another part of their world.

## East-West Twinning: Lisbellaw Primary School and Drumlanrig Primary School

This year's school twinning was somewhat different than last year. In March 2023, staff and pupils from Lisbellaw Primary School, Co Fermanagh, travelled to the border town of Hawick to meet their contemporaries from Drumlanrig Primary School in the town.

The visit coincided with the annual Hawick Reivers Festival and the Fermanagh pupils participated with enthusiasm and determination. As a result, Lisbellaw were awarded the trophy as overall winners of the games and competitions.

We felt it only right to accept an invitation from the organisers of the Hawick Reivers Festival



The Lisbellaw pupils enjoyed a return trip to Hawick earlier this year

to return this year and bring the trophy holders with us. So, in March past, the staff and pupils of Lisbellaw Primary set off again to make the long trip to Hawick to defend their title. The weekend was packed with activities, with the staff and pupils of Drumlanrig School meeting up with the Fermanagh pupils on the Saturday. Both schools participated in the parade through Hawick, before converging at the Moat Park where re-enactments and displays continued throughout the day.

The pupils later retired to the grounds of Drumlanrig school where the competitions and games were held. Although the Drumlanrig children put up a robust performance, the Lisbellaw pupils were absolutely delighted to be announced overall winners of the competitions.

For two consecutive years, the coveted Reiver Man trophy was taken back to Fermanagh to be displayed in Lisbellaw's trophy cabinet.

## North-South Twinning: Carntall Primary School and Fairgreen National School

For some time, the pupils of Carntall Primary School in Clogher, Co Tyrone, have been in contact with their counterparts at Fairgreen National School, Belturbet, Co Cavan.

On Wednesday, June 5 both schools met at the Marble Arch Caves outside Enniskillen in Co Fermanagh. Here, staff at the attraction led the group around the underground labyrinth of caves and glacial structures that make the place so unique.

The pupils (and accompanying teachers) learned a lot about geology and how and why the different rock formations evolved over thousands of years. At the end of the tour, the children enjoyed lunch together and the pupils of Carntall



Lisbellaw first secured the coveted Reiver Man trophy in 2023

presented their pen friends with a unique booklet they had produced especially for the twinning.

## North-South Twinning: Doagh Primary School and Castletown National School

On Tuesday, June 18, the Ulster-American Folk Park near Omagh was the setting for a meeting between pupils from Doagh Primary School near Ballyclare, County Antrim, and pupils from Castletown National School in County Donegal. For some months, the children had been in regular correspondence in the run-up to this meeting.

Both schools enjoyed a lovely day with plenty of sunshine and learning opportunities which they welcomed with enthusiasm. The staff at the Ulster-American Folk Park guided the pupils around the Ulster side before crossing (remarkably quickly!) to America. The trip was heartily enjoyed by all who participated.



The North Irish Dragoons (in red) as Covenanters of General Munro's army, and the Earl of Loudon's Regiment at Hawick



Mrs McFaul accepted the Flagship Award for pupils at Castleroe PS

## Schools celebrate Ulster-Scots Flagship status

This year, five schools in Northern Ireland are celebrating, having been presented with the Agency's prestigious Flagship Award.

The Ulster-Scots Flagship School Programme was launched in 2012 to promote the Ulster-Scots language, as well as the various strands of our Ulster-Scots culture and heritage, particularly in the fields of music and dance.

The full Flagship Programme lasts for 30 weeks. During this time, participating schools will choose three subjects, receiving regular tuition in these areas during the school day. An additional



THE ULSTER-SCOTS FLAGSHIP SCHOOL PROGRAMME WAS LAUNCHED IN 2012 TO PROMOTE THE ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS STRANDS OF OUR ULSTER-SCOTS CULTURE AND HERITAGE

fourth school-led project is also required, and while it must be linked to the world of Ulster-Scots, the school chooses the topic.

The schools receiving Flagship status in 2024 were:

- Abercorn Primary School, Banbridge
- Carntall Primary School, Clogher
- Castleroe Primary School, Coleraine
- Clare Primary School, Tandragee
- Killyleagh Integrated Primary School, Killyleagh.

### Abercorn Primary School

The pupils completed an intense 30-week study of piping and drumming. A good number of students attended the music classes each week.

### Carntall Primary School

The Co Tyrone-based school successfully completed the Flagship programme, with students participating in Highland dance and drama lessons over a one-year period. The school also took part in the Agency's North-South Twinning Project earlier this year. The project



# Celebrating Achievement at Parliament Buildings

**O**n June 27, 2024, the Ulster-Scots Agency held its annual Celebrating Achievement event in Parliament Buildings, Stormont.

The event was sponsored by Michelle McIlveen MLA and drew a good number of pupils and their guests from across Northern Ireland.

In the past academic year, five schools enrolled pupils in the Open College Network Course developed by the Agency in Lambeg Drumming. This course deals with Lambeg theory and practical drumming at Entry Level and is geared towards Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 children.

Lambeg tutor Willie Hill visited all five schools over a three-month period to take the participating pupils through the course. Some of those who completed the tutorials were too young to receive their OCN certificate, so they were presented with a Certificate of

Participation and will be awarded their OCN when they meet the minimum age requirement.

The five schools that participated in the Lambeg Course over the academic year were:

- Carrickfergus Grammar School
- Integrated College Glengormley
- Oakfield Primary School, Carrickfergus
- The Cope Primary School, Loughgall
- Richmond Primary School, Ballygawley.

On the night, a total of 48 pupils from these schools attended the event at Stormont and teaching staff from three of the schools were also present along with parents, guardians and proud grandparents.

Michelle McIlveen began the ceremony with opening remarks that were both supportive and encouraging.

Interim Chairman of the Agency Board, Freddie Kettle spoke on behalf of the Agency, commending the pupils for all their hard work, before Michelle presented the attendees with their certificates.

In total, 76 children received their OCN certificates with a further 37 Certificates of Participation presented. Pupils who were unable to attend the event in Belfast had their certificates presented to them in their schools by staff from the Agency.

The Agency would like to thank everyone who made the event a success: the Stormont Events staff, the pupils and their guests who attended, the teaching staff, Freddie Kettle and Allen McAdam from the Agency Board, and the drummers who played immediately after the event. Special thanks go to Michelle McIlveen MLA for taking time out of her busy schedule to sponsor the event and present the certificates.



A musical performance featuring Lambeg drums rounded off the celebrations

## 1,000 Weans for Ulster-Scots Summer Schools

**F**or the past 16 years, the Ulster-Scots Agency has supported community and voluntary groups with the delivery of an annual summer school programme. The programme is for children and young people aged between the years of seven and 16 and includes music, dance, drama, cookery and language elements, to name a few.

The funding stream is one of a variety of programmes offered by the Agency to assist communities develop Ulster-Scots culture, heritage, and language across the nine counties.

### 24 groups awarded funding

This year, the Agency has provided grants to 24 groups in Northern Ireland and County Donegal to allow almost 1,000 children to attend a five-day summer school designed around Ulster-Scots activities.

For example, children attending an Ulster-Scots Summer School can enjoy hands-on experience with up to 10 workshops across the five days, including piping, drumming, flute, fiddle, and Lambeg drum lessons; as well as drama,



Deirdre from the Ulster-Scots Community Network delivering a talk on Ulster-Scots and the Plantation

storytelling, cookery, football, living history, arts and crafts. In addition, each summer school is required to include an Ulster-Scots language workshop, and these are delivered via games and storytelling sessions.

Funding is also provided for groups to include an educational trip to a site or venue which has links with Ulster-Scots language, culture, or heritage.

### New projects for Summer '24

Over July and August 2024, the Ulster-Scots Summer School programme will support a range of community and voluntary groups including new projects in Omagh Cultural Hub; Sensory

Kids in Antrim; Garvagh Cultural Awareness; and a drama summer school delivered by the Maiden City Festival committee in Londonderry.

Groups in Belfast, Lisnaskea, Rathfriland, Castleterg, Killen, Newtown Stewart, Kilkeel, Annalong, Killinchy, Killyleagh, Magherafelt, Portadown, Lisburn, Spa, Tubrid in County Fermanagh, and Newtowncunningham in County Donegal also received financial support.

### Vital engagement

Derek Reaney, Community Development Officer at the Ulster-Scots Agency, is responsible for the Summer School programme. He said: "We are delighted to offer financial support to these

groups, and especially to the new groups applying for the first time. The summer school programme offers us the opportunity to engage with almost 1,000 children, and through a mixture of learning and fun, they can experience a range of Ulster-Scots cultural and linguistic activities.

"The Summer School programme is a vital part of our community outreach work and builds upon our engagement with the schools' sector. It is vital that we encourage young people to take an interest in their cultural heritage. In future years, many of these young people will also participate in our music and dance tuition programmes and play a vital role in the future promotion of Ulster-Scots culture," he added.

culminated in a visit to Marble Arch Caves in Co Fermanagh, where the pupils met their pen friends from Fairgreen National School in Belturbet, Co Cavan.

### Castleroe Primary School

Throughout their 30-week programme, Castleroe pupils enrolled in Lambeg drumming, piping, and Highland dance lessons.

### Clare Primary School

Students at Clare PS studied snare drumming (both theory and practice) as part of their Flagship programme. The pupils met the lessons with enthusiasm and a number have now gone on to join a local band. Many will also continue their studies of the above instruments and other Ulster-Scots subjects in the new academic year.

### Killyleagh Integrated Primary School

Both staff and pupils from Killyleagh IPS recently accepted the Flagship Award from Ulster-Scots Agency Education Officer, Gary Blair. In addition to completing their piping and drumming course, the school hosted a successful Ulster-Scots Day.



Many students at Clare PS have gone on to join a local band



Killyleagh IPS hosted a successful Ulster-Scots Day as part of their Flagship programme



# Getting to Know the Ulster-Scots Community Network

The Ulster-Scots Community Network is an umbrella body of over 600 groups that operate within the broad Ulster-Scots sector. Groups range from cultural societies to churches, marching bands, and schools, amongst others. We've been in existence for over 25 years, and we work to help groups on the ground right across Ulster.

The Network is here to help groups develop their skills, improve their knowledge of Ulster-Scots and grow their community and cultural confidence. So, if you want to improve your understanding of Ulster-Scots through educational courses, talks, or need help with running an Ulster-Scots event then we can help.

While we're based in the Discover Ulster-Scots Centre in Belfast, our staff travel across the country to help groups or to deliver workshops and talks in community venues including halls, churches and libraries. If you want to talk to us about anything around Ulster-Scots, policies or

governance, funding advice or practical elements like Safeguarding and AccessNI then don't hesitate to give us a call. Our office number is (028) 9043 6710 or you can email [info@ulster-scots.com](mailto:info@ulster-scots.com).

Alternatively, you can talk to our staff: Charles Neville is the Development Officer for South Ulster including Armagh and Fermanagh. He is also responsible for some of our Education Courses. To contact Charles: 07824 510 304 or [charlesn@ulster-scots.com](mailto:charlesn@ulster-scots.com).

Deirdre Speer Whyte is the Development Officer for Mid-Ulster and the North West and can deliver talks for groups on a range of topics including genealogy and family history. She's also responsible for the delivery of some of our Education Courses along with Charles. To contact Deirdre: 07826 849 767 or [deirdre@ulster-scots.com](mailto:deirdre@ulster-scots.com).

David McAuley is the Development Officer for Antrim and also helps groups with governance advice and funding support. To contact David: 07825 005 425 or [david.mcauley@ulster-scots.com](mailto:david.mcauley@ulster-scots.com).

Dayna Jost is the Development Officer for County Down and covers the Ards peninsula, down the coast to the Kingdom of Mourne, as well as Lisburn, Castlereagh and the Banbridge area. With a doctorate in education and 10 years' experience as a language teacher, Dayna is keen to assist groups to develop Ulster-Scots projects in their area. To contact Dayna: 07467 990 613 or

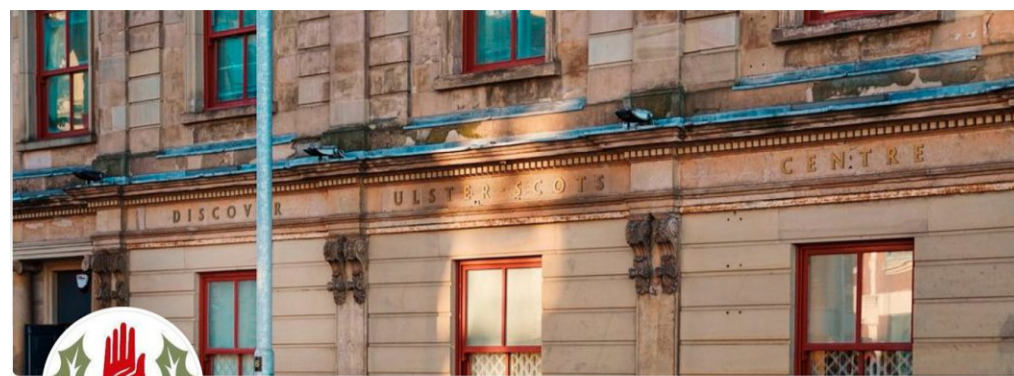


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## Join the Network for free help and advice

USCN is a membership-based organisation acting as a resource for the broad Ulster-Scots community in Ulster. We make it our task to represent the interests of the community across the country and to lobby on their behalf.

Membership is free and provides access to a range of services including advice about funding opportunities, governance assistance – help with constitution, policy templates, etc. – as well as providing an AccessNI service for groups who need

to have volunteers AccessNI checked for projects.

There is no fee for joining the Network and it's easy to sign up; simply enter the details of this link into a browser and that will take you to our sign-up page: <https://form.jotform.com/220762835335053>. Alternatively, check out our Facebook Page, or scan the adjacent QR code using your smartphone and complete your details. If you want to be aware of what's going on in the Ulster-Scots community, then it makes sense to be part of the Network.



[dayna@ulster-scots.com](mailto:dayna@ulster-scots.com)

Adam Pollock is our Communications and Digital Marketing Officer responsible for all our digital output including social media. He can also assist groups with promoting their events so get in touch if you think he can help. To contact Adam: 07467 990 578 or [adam@ulster-scots.com](mailto:adam@ulster-scots.com)

Gordon Lucy is the Network's Publications Officer, responsible for researching information for the extensive range of booklets that the Network produces, as well as publishing pieces about famous Ulster-Scots – including articles in the News Letter on a regular basis. Gordon also

delivers talks to groups on historical topics by arrangement.

Matthew Warwick is our Education & Outreach Officer and delivers talks to a range of groups across the country. He's also the lead on our AccessNI service. To contact Matthew: 07826 850 123 or [matthew@ulster-scots.com](mailto:matthew@ulster-scots.com).

David Gilliland is our Operations Director and has years of community development experience. If you need advice or guidance around policies or procedures or our AccessNI and safeguarding issues, then David can help you out. To contact David: 07795 490 600 or [david@ulster-scots.com](mailto:david@ulster-scots.com).

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## Keeping the written traditions alive

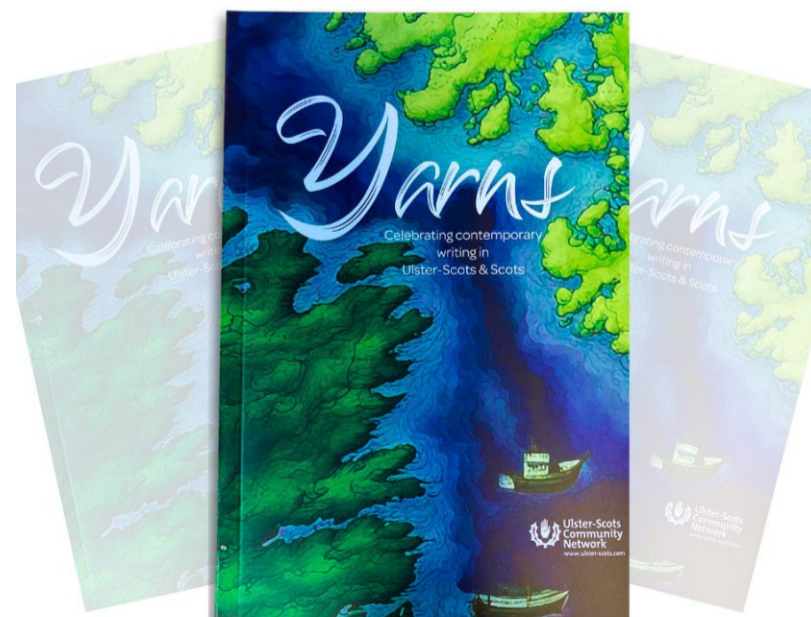
Over the last few years, we've been keen to promote new writing in Ulster-Scots and Scots, and we've now published three editions of our journal Yarns. This year we're aiming to do it again and the plan is for the latest edition to be ready for publication during Ulster-Scots Leid Week in November. So, if you're a writer, writing either poetry or prose in Ulster-Scots or Scots, then this might be just what you're looking for.

The journal is open to receiving submissions from writers new and old, previously published or first-time writers, as we hope to encourage a broader engagement with Ulster-Scots writing and themes. Submissions should be in Ulster-Scots or Scots.

The closing date for submissions is Friday, August 2, 2024, and they can be emailed to [yarns@ulster-scots.com](mailto:yarns@ulster-scots.com).

All entrants will receive a copy of the printed journal.

The editorial panel's decision on inclusion is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. Submitted pieces should be the original work of the person submitting



them and should not contain any material written by anyone else or copied from elsewhere. Ideally, the work should not have been published elsewhere. Copyright of the work

remains with the author; however, submitting it for inclusion gives the Ulster-Scots Community Network the right in perpetuity to publish and/or broadcast their work.



# Agency announces support for community festivals

**E**leven community groups are set to benefit this year from funding awarded through the Ulster-Scots Agency's Community Festivals Programme.

The annual programme provides opportunities for people to experience hands-on, and learn more about, Ulster-Scots culture, heritage and language within the wider community. The grant also supports the inclusion of Ulster-Scots content in other community festivals.

For 2024, the programme has delivered funding for the recent Royal Landing in Carrickfergus, and will also fund a range of different Ulster-Scots festivals before Spring 2025. Of the 11 festivals to receive funding, eight will be held over the summer months.

## Festival of Flutes

In Londonderry, the North West Cultural Partnership received funding for Festival of Flutes and builds upon the innovative event which made its debut last year. The festival celebrates the flute's contribution to Ulster-Scots culture and will include lunchtime recitals, masterclasses, and workshops. High-profile musicians from the world of flute and traditional music will also feature and celebrate the popular instrument. For further details: [facebook.com/newgatearts](https://facebook.com/newgatearts)

## Hairtlan Festival

The annual Hairtlan Festival is one of the largest community-run festivals in Northern Ireland. It received funding to offer a range of Ulster-Scots activities over a two-week period, including a series of music and dance workshops, an Ulster-

Scots exhibition, living history reenactments, traditional craft demonstrations, an open-air concert, and historical talks. The festival runs until July 11. For further details: [facebook.com/schombergsociety](https://facebook.com/schombergsociety)

## Ulster-Scots Gatherin

The Newtownstewart Ulster-Scots Gatherin will deliver a six-day Ulster-Scots festival from July 5-12. Highlights of the event include three showcase events in community venues, an Ulster-Scots arts and craft event for children, and a family fun night. An Ulster-Scots Tattoo will celebrate the local Ulster-Scots culture of piping, drumming, highland dance and drum major. For further details search 'West Tyrone Ulster Scots - Derry & Raphoe Action' on Facebook.

## Maiden City Festival

The Maiden City Festival takes place in Londonderry from July 29 - August 10. Now in its 26th year, the festival celebrates the Ulster-Scots contribution to the siege and includes a reenactment of the historic events on the walls of the city and the cathedral. Highlanad dance and piping displays will feature throughout the fortnight, while other events will be held in the Memorial Hall. For further details: [facebook.com/maidencityfestival](https://facebook.com/maidencityfestival)



Sollus Highland Dancers delight the crowds throughout Maiden City Festival



Music plays a key role in Ulster-Scots festivals. Pictured: Kildoag Pipe Band

an opportunity for all ages to get involved. Music, historical reenactments and activities for weans are all included in the programme, as are events exploring local and family history. For further details: [visitdonaghadee.com](https://visitdonaghadee.com)

## East Donegal Family History Festival

Returning to Monreagh from August 26-31, the East Donegal Family History Festival includes workshops on a range of issues including the Ulster-Scots industrial history of East Donegal; and researching your family history. Bluegrass music will be on display, plus enjoy a night of the Ulster-Scots Bards of East Donegal. The festival will also include a visit to Brook Hall Estate & Gardens, located near Londonderry. For further details: [facebook.com/monreaghheritagecentre](https://facebook.com/monreaghheritagecentre)

In addition to the above, the Agency has provided funding to three community festivals which will be held during Autumn/Winter 2024.

## Donaghadee Ulster-Scots Festival

This is the second annual Donaghadee Ulster-Scots Festival and runs over the weekend of August 16-18. It offers a varied programme and



Re-enactments help bring historical events to life for festivalgoers



Comedian Tim McGarry made a festival appearance in 2023

Ulster-Scots Agency  
Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch

NEW GATE  
ARTS & CULTURE CENTRE  
PRESENTS

**FESTIVAL**  
OF FLUTES

28th June - 5th July '24

[www.newgatearts.com](https://www.newgatearts.com)



# Visit East Donegal Family History Festival

Join Monreagh Heritage & Education Centre for a week-long festival of family fun, celebrating the heritage and history of East Donegal. From Monday to Friday, August 26-30, enjoy live performances of music, song and dance, field trips, genealogy workshops and much more.

On Monday, August 26, from 10am – 2pm, a craft fair and open day will be held at Monreagh Heritage Centre. Explore a variety of handmade crafts, unique gifts, and delicious treats by local artisans, with lots of creativity and fun guaranteed.

An Ulster-Scots Cultural Night will take place from 7-10pm on Tuesday, August 27, at Monreagh Community Hall. Come along and enjoy the crack with an Ulster-Scots table quiz. Alan Millar will also be in attendance and will be reciting poetry on the night. Alan, who is from the Laggan area of east Donegal but now based in Ballymoney, is an award-winning journalist, writer and poet in Ulster-Scots and English.

Friday, August 30, will see Monreagh Heritage

Hall open its doors for a 'Tracing Your Family History' workshop. Taking place from 5-7pm, leading family history specialists – Nigel Giddey and Keith Wright – will help attendees get their family history research off to a great start. Nigel and Keith will share some of their expert tips and tricks gathered over decades of research. Historian and local tour guide Seamus Breslin will also be in attendance. This workshop is particularly suited to anyone starting out on their journey of discovering their ancestors.

Also on Friday, from 2-4pm, will be one-to-one consultations on 'Researching Your Ulster Ancestors'. With access to tens of thousands of local family history records, Donegal's leading family historians will be at the Heritage Centre to offer free in-depth consultations.

All events are free, but please note booking may be essential for some events. For further details, visit Eventbrite and search 'East Donegal Family History Festival' or follow Monreagh Heritage Centre on Facebook.

## Donaghadee: The Place to Be



Lorna Elliot, Ulster Scots Agency; Councillor Jennifer Gilmour, Chair of ANDBC Place and Prosperity Committee; Denis Waterworth, Chair of Donaghadee Community Development Association and Carol Day, vice Chair of DCDA launch Donaghadee Festival. Photo: Bob Torrens, Chronicle/Spectator

If you are interested in Ulster-Scots history, heritage and culture then, in August, Donaghadee is the place to be.

A three-day programme, coordinated by Donaghadee Community Development Association and entitled 'Celebrating our Ulster-Scots Heritage', will run from August 16-18 and has something for everyone.

Donaghadee was the main port of entry for Scottish settlers moving to Ulster when Hugh Montgomery arrived in May 1606. The Hamilton and Montgomery Settlement was the first permanent, large-scale Scottish settlement in Ireland, and it was these settlers who would first be described as 'Ulster-Scots'.

in Donaghadee of the first Ulster-Scots settlers, wearing full costume and touring the town in a replica wooden boat.

### Exhibition, talks and tours

In addition to the above, there is an exhibition, talks on Hamilton-Montgomery, the Ulster-Scots writers of County Down, the Tartan, and famous Ulster-Scots. Alongside this is a graveyard tour of the graves of original settlers and an opportunity to explore your Ulster-Scots heritage.

### Ulster Fry World Championship

A highlight of the festival is sure to be the second Ulster Fry World Championship. The event was introduced in 2023, capturing public and media attention across Ulster. It has been developed through close co-operation with Ards and North Down Borough Council, FoodNI and Jenny Bristow. Last year, the competition was won by Stephen McDonald of McKee's Country Store and Restaurant in Newtownards.

Commenting ahead of this year's festival, Denis Waterworth, local restaurateur and chairman of the organising committee, said: "We have worked hard to put together this programme which we hope will have widespread appeal. I am grateful to everyone who has contributed, especially our main funders Ards and North Down Borough Council and the Ulster-Scots Agency. Without this level of support the event would not be possible."

### Tented Village

The festival celebrates the town's strong Ulster-Scots connection through talks, food, music and dance. Events will take place in a tented village erected on the former Translink site, generously made available by Urban Properties Solutions Limited. Entry to all events is free.

Younger children will enjoy trying to find the Ulster-Scots word hidden in various shop windows, as well as taking part in some games with an Ulster-Scots link.

Folk of all ages can enjoy music, dance, a food fair, craft and food demonstrations, with the latter featuring celebrity chef Jenny Bristow. There will also be a reenactment of the arrival in 1606

## FESTIVAL OF FLUTES RETURNS FOR 2024

The Organising Committee of New Gate Arts & Culture Centre were delighted to welcome guests to the second annual Festival of Flutes, a celebration of the enchanting world of flute music.

With all events hosted at New Gate Arts & Culture Centre, Londonderry, this year's festival promised to build upon the success of the inaugural event, offering an even richer tapestry of performances, workshops, and interactive experiences.

During the festival, visitors had the chance to immerse themselves in the diverse and captivating sounds of the flute. From classical masterpieces to contemporary compositions, solo recitals to collaborative ensembles, the programme was carefully designed to showcase the versatility and expressive power of this timeless instrument.

The 2024 line-up featured an array of world-renowned flautists, emerging talents, and local musicians all coming together to share their passion and artistry. In addition, the festival offered masterclasses, educational workshops,



Flautists performing at an event during Festival of Flutes

and engaging discussions led by experts in the field.

Whether you are an experienced musician, a budding flautist, or simply a lover of beautiful music, there is something for everyone at this festival.

The New Gate Arts & Culture Centre's Festival of Flutes 2024 has been funded by Derry City & Strabane District Council and the Ulster-Scots Agency, as well as other community partners.

For further details: [facebook.com/newgatearts](https://facebook.com/newgatearts)

EAST DONEGAL

## Family History Festival



FREE Admission to all events

Monday  
26<sup>th</sup> August  
to Friday  
30<sup>th</sup> August

At Monreagh Ulster Scots Heritage Centre, The Old Manse, (near Carrigans), County Donegal F93 DN24



### FEATURING:

- Scottish Ceilidh Dancing & Piping
- Donegal's favourite Bluegrass musicians, The Rednecks
- Local expert family historians
- Special guests and local talent

### INCLUDING:

- Craft Fair & Horticultural Demonstrations
- Vintage Street Games
- Music, Song and Dance
- Family History Consultations & Workshop
- Vist to Brookhall Estate & Gardens
- Table Quiz



Ulster-Scots Agency  
The Board o' Ulster-Scotch

'This festival has been supported by the Ulster-Scots Agency'

Web: [monreagh.net](http://monreagh.net) Facebook: [monreaghheritagecentre](https://facebook.com/monreaghheritagecentre)

Free tickets available at [eventbrite](https://eventbrite.com) <https://bit.ly/4bivtWz>





**Piper Grahame Harris and drummer Lee Lawson entertain the crowds**



**The Agency will have complimentary goodie bags available for visitors**



**Demi Walker School of Dance will be performing as part of August's activities**

# Ulster-Scots activities at Cockle Row

As part of its Summer Sunday programme of activities with fun for all the family, Ards and North Down Borough Council has opened the doors to Cockle Row Cottages.

Situated in Groomsport, the restored fishermen's cottages (which were inhabited until the 1950s) illustrate what life would have been like for such a family at the turn of the last century. One building is now a heritage cottage, allowing visitors to experience bygone times; the other cottage is a modern Visitor Information Centre.

Thought to be nearly 400 years old, the cottages are a much-loved attraction locally and provide idyllic surroundings for some free family entertainment this summer. In partnership with the council, the Agency is delighted to be back once again to help celebrate Ulster-Scots language, heritage and culture in the area. We will be at the cottages on the final Sundays of the summer months, July 28 and August 25 (as well as September 15 as part of this year's European

Heritage Open Days), with a variety of entertainment for folk of all ages.

On Sunday, July 28, enjoy some Ulster-Scots storytelling with international storyteller and best-selling author Steve Lally.

On Sunday, August 25, experience the magic of Highland dance with Demi Walker School of Dance. We'll once again be joined by Steve Lally for an engaging Ulster-Scots storytelling session.

On Sunday, September 15, sit back and relax as Steve Lally shares another selection of stories, while Co. Tyrone based textile artist Andrea Hayes will be demonstrating shape

painting crafts – with an Ulster-Scots theme – for the weans to enjoy.

In addition to this, our team will have some complimentary goodie bags available for visitors on the above dates including Ulster-Scots literature and other items. For further announcements about Cockle Row, as well as other Agency appearances over the summer months, search 'Ulster-Scots Agency' on Facebook and 'follow' our page.

Cockle Row Cottages are open seasonally from June to August, Thursday-Sunday, 11am-5pm. Free family entertainment takes place at the cottages on Sundays from 2pm-4pm.

## Programme of Ulster-Scots activities

**July 28:** Ulster-Scots Storytelling with Steve Lally

**August 25:** Ulster-Scots Storytelling with Steve Lally & Highland Dance with Demi Walker School of Dance

**September 15:** Ulster-Scots Storytelling with Steve Lally & Shape Painting Crafts with Andrea Hayes.

# Maiden City Festival Unveiled



**Events will take place around the city's walls and other locations**



**The festival's living history activities will bring historical events to life**



**Musical performances will be held throughout the festival**

the closing of the city gates in December 1688, and takes place in St Columb's Cathedral. This will be supplemented with displays in musketry and canon firing as well as dialing it back to yesteryear with the always popular tea dances.

Evening entertainment such as The Songs My Father Sang, Letters from The Siege, and the re-emergence of the Crimmon Players provide a lively end to each evening. The festival will reach its conclusion with The Siege Pageant. This is the traditional curtain fall on the festival. The Siege Pageant re-enacts the story of the siege at Carlisle Circus, before the 335th anniversary of the Relief of Londonderry parade will begin.

**For further information on this year's festival, follow Maiden City Festival on Facebook**

# Save the Date: Raphoe Ulster-Scots Heritage Day

The Agency's popular Raphoe Ulster-Scots Heritage Day is back for 2024.

Taking place on Saturday, September 7, the event will feature pipe bands, Highland dance, live music, food stalls, and children's entertainment. Registration for pipe bands wishing to participate will open

shortly.

Launched in 2015, the Agency's annual Heritage Day event celebrates the rich Ulster-Scots heritage of East Donegal and Raphoe.

**Follow our Facebook Page ([facebook.com/ulsterscotsagency](https://www.facebook.com/ulsterscotsagency)) for updates**



## RAPHOE ULSTER-SCOTS HERITAGE DAY

**SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2024**

- PIPE BANDS
- HIGHLAND DANCE
- LIVE MUSIC
- FOOD STALLS
- CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

Now in its 26th year, the Maiden City Festival returns this summer with an outreach programme of roadshows across Northern Ireland and the border counties.

These mini versions of the festival include highlights like the Siege Museum outreach vehicle, the living history actors telling the 'Siege Tales', musical piping performances and Highland dance.

Another element of the outreach programme is the one-act comedy play 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way

to the 12th'. The play features five different characters from across the community, who meet at a bus stop in Foyle Street on August 12, the annual celebration of the Relief of Londonderry. The production will enjoy multiple performances across communities in the city this year.

Another new element for the 2024 festival is an Ulster-Scots Drama Summer School which will include a performance of a play – entitled '11th Night' – around the issue of bonfires. The main Maiden City

Festival week runs from August 3-10 and will see the city's Walls and Memorial Hall packed with activities from early morning until late at night.

The Skirl of the Pipes will feature piping, drumming, and Highland dance demonstrations on Grand Parade on the city walls, while 'Siege Tales' allows visitors to meet some of the characters who lived through the siege. Join the living history actors as they share the events which took place within the city.

The Story of the Siege is a promenade performance, telling the story of events from



# Don't miss *Tha Hairtlan Festival 2024*



Fireworks at the finale of *Tha Hairtlan Festival 2023*. This year's event will conclude with an 11th night bonfire, fireworks and a Lambeg drumming display

The Schomberg Society is hosting its annual Hairtlan Festival, which runs until July 11.

Offering a range of Ulster-Scots events with something for all ages to enjoy, the festival commenced on Friday, June 28, with an Ulster-Scots Gathering and barbecue at Silent Valley Reservoir, Killeel. This is always one of the highlights of *Tha Hairtlan Festival* and includes a range of Ulster-Scots performers including marching bands, singers, dancers, musicians, and drum majors, as well as Ulster-Scots living history performers.

To mark the Battle of the Somme on Monday, July 1, a special commemoration was held at Mourne Presbyterian Church War Memorial in Killeel, complete with living history reenactors and musicians; while an Auld Time Ulster-Scots Gospel Music and Song event was shared with local nursing homes.

## Showcase events

On Saturday, July 6, the festival will host three Ulster-Scots Oot N Aboot showcase events. These will take place at Cranfield Beach from 12pm, Killeel town centre from 1.30pm, and Annalong village centre from 3pm. These pop-up Ulster-Scots events will display Highland dancing, piping, drumming, singing, drum majoring, and accordion playing. On the same evening, *Tha Hairtlan Festival* will host its first 'Ulster-Scots Social' from 8pm in Killeel Orange Hall for all young people.

On Sunday, July 7, from 5pm a special Ulster-Scots Gospel Concert will take place in Reivers House, Killeel.

On Tuesday, July 9, historian Quincey Dougan will host a talk and presentation on the Battle of Dolly's Brae from 8pm in *Tha Hairtlan Hub*, Harbour Road, Killeel.

New to the festival this year is a range of Ulster-Scots Music and Dance Masterclasses in Scottish Highland dancing, drum majoring, fiddle, flute, snare drumming, Lambeg drumming, Highland bagpipes and tenor drumming.



The July 11 Open Air Concert will feature drum majors

For the first time, the Society has also introduced new masterclasses in Ulster-Scots Seafood Cookery, Ulster-Scots Singing for Weans, and Ulster-Scots Poetry and Language.

All the masterclasses are free and take place in Killeel throughout the festival. Booking is essential.

## Rangers Fitba Ulster-Scots Soccer Summer Camp

Offering a new programme for weans this year the festival features its first Rangers Fitba Ulster-Scots Soccer Summer Camp which begins from Monday, July 8, at Killeel High School. The camp runs from 10.30am-1.30pm each day, finishing on Thursday, July 11, in Queen Elizabeth II Park, Killeel, as part of the festival's 11th Afternoon Fun Day.

## Festival Finale

On July 11, *Tha Hairtlan Festival* culminates with its largest events. The morning will get underway with a Highland dance competition organised by Kirknarra School of Dance, which will take place



The Open Air Concert is one of *Tha Hairtlan Festival's* highlights

in the Queen Elizabeth II Park. An Ulster-Scots Afternoon Tea Dance will also be taking place in Annalong Community Centre from 2.30-3.30pm.

The Hairtlan Festival's Ulster-Scots Family Fun Day takes place from 12pm-3pm in Queen Elizabeth II Park with a full line-up of Ulster-Scots activities and performers for everyone to enjoy. There will also be a special sky-diving display to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, with the sky divers landing in Queen Elizabeth II Park.

Marching bands, Ulster-Scots musicians and singers, highland dancing, Lambeg drumming and drum majoring will all be on show during the day, as will a range of Ulster-Scots reenactor interactive campsites and displays, exhibitions, craft workshops, and living history drama performers. There will be a variety of entertainment for weans including Highland Games and tug o' war, boxing, kid's Ulster-Scots crazy golf, falconry, children's inflatables, petting farm, archery and target shooting, face-painting, balloon-modelling, weans' bonfire and more.

The traditional 11th Night Pageant will make its

way through Killeel town centre from 7.30pm and feature marching bands, including the famous County Flute Band from Scotland. Also taking part in the pageant will be Ulster-Scots reenactors, floats, horses, cannons, Auld Time banners, military vehicles, Highland dancers, drum majors, and children's entertainers. Children are also encouraged to dress in period costume and participate in the pageant.

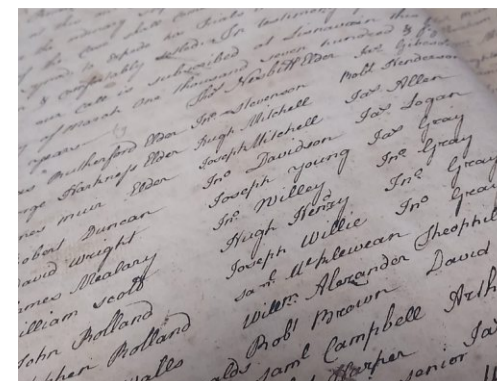
Following the pageant, the 11th Night Open Air Concert will commence in Queen Elizabeth II Park from 8.30pm with musical entertainment and historical exhibitions and reenactments. The evening will end with the festival's traditional 11th Night bonfire. Fire breather performers and a fireworks extravaganza are also planned. *Tha Hairtlan Festival* will finish just before midnight with a display of Lambeg drumming in Killeel town centre.

For further information, or to book a place on one of the festival masterclasses contact the Schomberg Society on 07775 222 553 or email [schombergsociety@gmail.com](mailto:schombergsociety@gmail.com)





Commemorating the Cahans Exodus (l-r): Rev Dr Gerry Clinton (Ballybay Presbyterian Church), Rev John Paul Marr, (Troy ARP Church), Rev David Nesbitt (Cahans Meeting House Committee) and Ian Crozier (CEO, Ulster-Scots Agency)



The original Session Book of the Cahans congregation is preserved at the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland in Belfast. Shown here is the record of them calling Rev Dr Thomas Clark as their minister in 1751

area. Most of the group, along with Rev Clark, stuck to the plan, but on arriving at the allotted land in New York, found it unsuitable and so made alternative arrangements, settling in an area called New Perth, which was later renamed Salem.

**Relocation**

Rev Dr Clark stayed at Salem for the next eight years, serving as both minister and doctor to the community (he had received medical training as a young man in Scotland). In 1782, he moved to be with the part of his flock who had settled in South Carolina, becoming minister of the churches at Cedar Springs and Long Cane. He remained there for the rest of his life. Despite all of his travels and travails, Clark never lost his affection for the members of his congregation who stayed behind at Cahans. When he died in 1792, there was found on his desk a 'Pastoral and Farewell Letter to the Associate Congregation of Presbyterians in Ballybay New Erection by their former Pastor, the Rev Dr T Clark'. It was a record of his time in Monaghan as well as a plea for their spiritual welfare.

**Legacy**

The story of the Cahans Exodus and the remarkable man who led it is well known to Presbyterian historians, but it deserves to be known to a much wider audience in Monaghan and beyond. Rev Dr James Seaton Reid, one of the foremost Presbyterian historians, said of Thomas Clark: 'Of all the seceding ministers originally settled in Ireland, none attracted so much public attention... For two years before his settlement at Ballybay, he itinerated throughout Monaghan, Tyrone, Armagh and Down. He had preaching stations to supply in different parts of Ulster... and if he could but hope to advance the great cause he had at heart, he was ready to proceed, on very short notice, to any distant town or county where he was invited to officiate... Those who entered into conversation with him were soon made sensible that they were holding fellowship with a minister of Christ'.

# Cahans Exodus remembered 260 years on

There was a great reunion event at the historic Cahans Meeting House, County Monaghan, a fortnight ago to commemorate the 260th anniversary of the Cahans Exodus, when a local Presbyterian minister, Rev Dr Thomas Clark led around 300 of his flock to America. In May 1764 they walked from Cahans to Narrow Water near Newry, where they boarded ship, arriving in New York on July 28, after nearly 10 weeks at sea.

Many friends from Ulster were joined by visitors from Salem, New York, and Abbeville, South Carolina, the two places where the Cahans families settled and Rev Dr Clark ministered, as well as relatives from Florida and visitors from Australia. They heard from Rev David Nesbitt of Cahans Meeting House Committee and Rev John Paul Marr of Troy Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, South Carolina, a daughter church of one founded by Rev Dr Clark.

Guests were able to explore a new exhibition created by the Ulster-Scots Agency for the occasion, which is now on permanent display at the historic building, which has undergone extensive (and continuing) restoration after decades in disuse. They were also treated to a hearty supper and a selection of traditional Ulster-Scots, American and Gospel music from Markethill-based group Stonewall.

**Seceders**

The Cahans congregation was originally established as part of the Secession Church, a branch of Presbyterianism that emerged following a split in the Church of Scotland in 1712. The dispute arose over state interference in the church and landlords interfering in the people's right to select their own ministers. The Seceders came to Ulster with an emphasis on personal faith and traditional Reformed doctrines, acting as a kind of revival movement. Their theological conservatism was attractive to many Ulster-Scots Presbyterians.

**Opposition**

Rev Dr Thomas Clark was an energetic pastor and the first Seceder in Ireland to advance his beliefs in print, frequently criticising what he saw as others' errors. His directness sometimes

bred hostility in others. Rev James Jackson, the Presbyterian Minister of First Ballybay (from which many of the Cahans congregation were drawn) played a part in having Clark arrested and imprisoned for refusing to take the legally required oath of allegiance by kissing the Bible. (Seceders saw 'kissing the calfskin' as unscriptural and preferred to swear by their upraised right hand). Clark was the only Seceder minister to be treated in this way, which was ironic given that he had actually served in the Duke of Cumberland's army which defeated the Jacobites at Culloden in 1745.

**Migration**

Clark lost his wife and a young son within six months of each other in 1762 (their burial vault is the oldest surviving structure at the Cahans site) and it is believed that this personal tragedy, combined with ongoing hostility to his ministry

and a feeling that he was losing support within his congregation, led him to consider emigration. He reached out to Robert Harper, a Monaghan-born Ulster-Scot who had become an established public figure in New York and they developed a plan to accommodate Clark and those who would follow him. Harper later recalled that the Cahans people were driven by 'a longing for freedom to live and worship'. After a period of preparation, they sailed for the new world. Rev Dr Clark recorded, 'On 10th May 1764 we sailed from Newry. The all-gracious God carried near 300 of us safe over the devouring deep in the arms of his mercy. Praised be His name. We arrived safe in New York on July 28th'.

The intention was for the whole Cahans party to settle in an area secured by Harper in New York, but things didn't go according to plan. They encountered land agents from South Carolina and around a third of the group decided to break away and head south, settling in the Abbeville



Friends from Ulster and America recently met and are pictured outside Cahans Meeting House





**Campbell College Pipes and Drums were invited to take part in the military parade**

For the first time ever, Northern Ireland's major event for Armed Forces Day has included a significant Ulster-Scots display. Ulster-Scots Agency CEO Ian Crozier commented: "Armed Forces Day is a massive event in Northern Ireland, attracting huge crowds wherever it is held. We are delighted to have been part of this year's event and worked hard to put together a package that would be relevant to the AFD audience while also promoting the heritage and culture of the Ulster-Scots community. Fortunately, this was not difficult given the long tradition of service within the Ulster-Scots community, which continues to this day.

"We hope to have an even bigger presence in Bangor next year for Armed Forces Day 2025, which will also coincide with the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War."

This year's event, which saw tens of thousands of visitors from all over Northern Ireland packing Jordanstown Loughshore Park on the shores of Belfast Lough, took place on June 22 and was organised jointly by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council and the Ministry of Defence.

The day started with a drumhead service and parade featuring over 600 service personnel and veterans, led by the band of the Royal Marines, where soldiers from 1 Irish Guards paraded the new colours that were recently presented to them by HM King Charles III and used at the Trooping the Colour ceremony in London.

Other highlights of the day's programme included a gun salute by the Royal Artillery; a breathtaking display by the Red Arrows, stands and displays representing all branches of the armed forces; and performances by the bands of the Royal Marines and the Royal Irish Regiment.

The Ulster-Scots elements of the programme, which were supported by the Ulster-Scots Agency, included a display of WWII themed Lambeg drums, dancers from the Demi Walker School of Highland Dance



**Many visitors were drawn to the stand by a genuine WWII Willy's Jeep**



**Deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly MLA and Department for Communities Minister Gordon Lyons MLA**



**A military parade formed part of the day's activities**

# Armed Forces Day First for Ulster-Scots

performing the Sailor's Hornpipe (a staple of Highland dance) and performances by the Pipes and Drums of Campbell College.

The display also included the Ulster-Scots Agency's new touring exhibition on Ulster-Scots and D-Day, which explores the important part played by people from the Ulster-Scots community and our diaspora in the invasion of Normandy 80 years ago in June 1944.

The Campbell College Pipes and Drums who were part of the Ulster-Scots programme were also invited to take part in the military parade,



WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS YEAR'S EVENT AND WORKED HARD TO PUT TOGETHER A PACKAGE THAT WOULD BE RELEVANT TO THE AFD AUDIENCE WHILE ALSO PROMOTING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF THE ULSTER-SCOTS COMMUNITY.

leading the veterans' contingent alongside musicians from the North Irish Regiment, Royal Logistics Corps.

A combined team from the Ulster-Scots Agency, Ulster-Scots Community Network and North Belfast based Ulster-Scots Community Impact Project Small Steps staffed the Ulster-Scots stand, talking to large numbers of visitors and distributing an extensive range of promotional materials. Many visitors were drawn to the stand by a genuine WWII Willy's Jeep which formed part of the display, which was kitted out like the kind of vehicle used by soldiers from Blair Mayne's SAS. Among those visiting the stand were Deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly MLA and Department for Communities Minister Gordon Lyons MLA.



**The Ulster-Scots Agency's new touring exhibition on Ulster-Scots and D-Day was on display**





Copies of *A Wee Taste* were recently available at the Balmoral Show

## A Wee Taste of Ulster-Scots



The word farl is Ulster-Scots for quadrant

“Ulster-Scots food is engrained in our heritage. When Scottish settlers arrived in Ulster in the early 16th century, they brought with them a work ethic and a ‘thran’ attitude.

They established modern farming methods in Ulster. Food, including fish, was seasonal and preserving what produce they had was vital to cope with the leaner months in the year. In many ways this is how we should be producing and eating food today.

Small holdings are now recognised as a more sustainable way to farm. In the past a family would have had crops like barley, wheat and oats, a couple of cows, a few pigs, a goat and some chickens. Each played a part in their own naturally created ecosystem.”

These are the words of Paula McIntyre MBE in her introduction to the recipe book, *A Wee Taste of Ulster-Scots*, which has been produced by the Ulster-Scots Agency.

Over 24 recipes, Paula takes us through different meat and fish dishes, including Black Pudding with Clapshot and Molly

Gowan with Clappy-Doos and Kale. There’s also a recipe for traditional Scotch Broth and Partan Bree. Or, if you’ve a sweet tooth, why not try a recipe for Cloutie Dumpling with an Elderflower Cider Custard, Yellow Brochan, or Potato Apple.

We have selected just one of Paula’s recipes to share here, but whichever you decide to choose, in her own words, ‘they’re user friendly and tasty – the way good, hamely scran should be!’

To view videos of Paula McIntyre preparing the dishes in *A Wee Taste of Ulster-Scots*, scan the QR code on your smartphone. Alternatively, you can watch the videos at [www.discoverulsterscots.com/](http://www.discoverulsterscots.com/) a-wee-taste. Copies of the book are also available via this link.



The word farl is Ulster-Scots for quadrant

### Butter and Soda Farls

#### Ingredients

300g/11oz plain flour  
1 heaped teaspoon baking soda  
½ teaspoon salt  
250ml/8fl oz buttermilk

#### Method

Pre-heat a griddle or skillet pan to a medium heat.  
Mix the dry ingredients together in a mixing bowl.  
Make a well in the centre of the bowl. Slowly add the buttermilk (there may be some left over, depending on the type of flour you use) and mix until a soft dough.  
Place the dough on a floured surface and knead lightly – don’t overwork it.  
Roll out into a circle about 2cm or 1 inch thick. Cut into farls and leave for 5 minutes. (The word farl is Ulster-Scots for quadrant and describes the shape that sodas are traditionally made in Ulster.)  
Cook for 8 to 10 minutes each side until golden brown.  
Serve with butter and jam.  
The farls are best eaten on the day they are made.

## The Linen Hall announces Ulster-Scots Writing Competition

The Linen Hall has unveiled details of the fourth annual Ulster-Scots Writing Competition.

With support from the Ulster-Scots Agency, this exciting literary event will take place this summer, celebrating and showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the Ulster-Scots community.

The competition will feature two categories, prose and poetry, providing a platform for aspiring writers to showcase their talent. Each category will have a coveted £500 cash prize for the winner, while one runner-up from each section will be awarded £250.

The winners will be revealed during Ulster-Scots Language Week in November 2024, and their entries will be published in a special edition anthology.

This year, the distinguished panel of judges lending their expertise to the adjudication process will be Professor Wesley Hutchison, Dr Jennifer Orr and Matthew Warwick.

Linen Hall Director, Julie Andrews, said: “Now in its fourth year, the Ulster-Scots Writing Competition is one of highlights of the literary calendar in Northern Ireland, especially for the Ulster-Scots writing community. It showcases the talent of writers and gives them a platform to build a writing career, as well as richly demonstrating the vitality of Ulster-Scots. We continue to be grateful to the Ulster-Scots Agency, who generously sponsor the competition, and whose support helps us to sustain a vibrant linguistic and cultural tradition that is at the heart of our unique and extensive collections here in the library.”

Ian Crozier, CEO, Ulster-Scots Agency, added: “Writing in the Ulster-Scots language has gone from strength to strength over the last five years and that is in no small part due to the success of the Ulster-Scots Writing Competition delivered by The Linen Hall with support from the Ulster-



Alan Millar and Morna Sullivan were among the 2023 competition winners

Scots Agency. Many exciting, new Ulster-Scots writers have emerged and grown in confidence over that time with different writers winning the competition over the years. We look forward to receiving the entries from this year’s competition and would encourage anyone with an interest in the Ulster-Scots language to try their hand at writing and submitting an entry.”

Entrants are encouraged to submit their work by 5pm on Friday 30 August 2024.

In 2023, the winners were Alan Millar (Poetry: Winner), Morna Sullivan (Prose: Winner), Jen Herron (Poetry: Runner-up), and William Dickey (Prose: Runner-up).

For more information, competition entry guidelines and how to submit an entry, please visit: [www.linenhall.com/ulster-scots-writing-competition](http://www.linenhall.com/ulster-scots-writing-competition)

THE LINEN HALL  
**ULSTER-SCOTS**  
**WRITING COMPETITION**

28 JUNE - 30 AUGUST

With the support of the Ulster-Scots Agency, we will be hosting our highly anticipated fourth annual Ulster-Scots Writing Competition. This year’s competition will feature two distinct categories, offering participants a chance to compete in either poetry or prose. To find out more visit The Linen Hall website: [www.linenhall.com/ulster-scots-writing-competition](http://www.linenhall.com/ulster-scots-writing-competition)

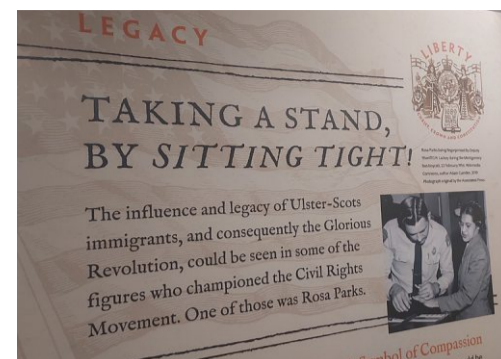
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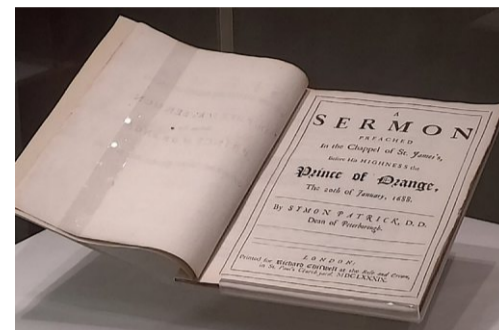




The Liberty exhibition is currently on display in the Museum of Orange Heritage. Admission is free



The influence of Ulster-Scots immigrants could be seen in figures who championed the Civil Rights Movement



A copy of Simon Patrick D.D.'s sermon, in the presence of William III is on display in Belfast's Museum of Orange Heritage

# The Years of Liberty: 1688 and 1776

Mark Thompson casts a new light on our July celebrations

On July 4, Americans celebrate their Declaration of Independence. On July 12, Ulster-Scots remember the Battle of the Boyne, the crowning victory of the Glorious Revolution. In recent times, people have seen celebrating the Glorious Revolution as an expression of loyalty, while the celebration of 1776 could be seen as an expression of disloyalty. This perspective is untrue. Instead, both were expressions of liberty – with the very same liberties which were first established in the British Isles in 1688 being reclaimed in the British colonies in America in 1776.

What very few people understand today is that, at the time, the inhabitants of the American colonies (the population of which was around 90% from the British Isles, and 90% various shades of Protestant) didn't actually want independence from Britain.

Generations earlier, the first of those colonies which had been established at Jamestown in Virginia in 1607, was granted a preparatory Royal Charter by King James VI & I, who was also the architect of the Plantation of Ulster. On April 10, 1606, he promised full British rights to the American colonists: "that all and every the Persons being our Subjects, which shall dwell and inhabit within every or any of the said several Colonies and Plantations, and every of their children, which shall happen to be born within any of the Limits and Precincts of the said several Colonies and Plantations, shall have and enjoy all Liberties, Franchises, and Immunities, within any of our other Dominions, to all Intents and Purposes, as if they had been abiding and born within this our Realm of England or any other of our said Dominions."

## Second class citizens

However, the monarchs who followed – Charles I, Charles II, and James II, had diminished the people's rights. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 restored liberty to the British Isles, and also to the young British colonies in America.

In the 1760s and 1770s, when the London government and King George III consistently treated the American colonists and their 13

Colonial Assemblies as second-class citizens, and refused to permit them their full British rights, multiple protests began. The colonists made an important distinction however, in that they protested the actions of the London Parliament, whilst at the same time expressing their ongoing loyalty to the Crown.

Throughout the 1700s, American colonists continually looked back to King William III. James Otis Jr's 1764 tract *The Rights of British Colonies Asserted and Proved* referred to the Glorious Revolution. He wrote that, had William of Orange not arrived in 1688, Britain would have been in "chains and darkness".

## The Intolerable Acts

After the Boston Tea Party, in 1774 the London

Government revoked the 1691 Charter of Massachusetts Bay (also known as the Charter of William and Mary) and introduced a series of punitive new laws, referred to by the colonists as 'The Intolerable Acts'. Boston port was closed in a blockade which for many residents of Massachusetts carried echoes of the Siege of Derry. Soon many local communities began to pen their objections to the government action – one of the first to do so was in rural Colrain in western Massachusetts, who issued the Colrain Resolves on 31 January 1774. The community, and their committee who published these Resolves, were descendants of survivors of the Siege of Derry.

The colonists of 1776, such as Boston Tea Party leader Samuel Adams who had been one of the founders of the Sons of Liberty movement,

saw themselves as the inheritors of 1688: "...the Americans...were the true heirs of England's Glorious Revolution, while the increasingly imperial Britain of George III represented the negation of that revolution..."

## 'Aspiring tyrant'

Even in London the similarities were understood. The Whig politician Charles James Fox regarded King George III as "an aspiring tyrant" and wrote, "the Americans have done no more than the English did against James II." They wanted their full British rights, as had been written down in law by the joint, 'gender-equal', monarchy of King William III and Queen Mary II in their Declaration of 1688 and later enacted in law as their Bill of Rights of 1689. Those rights had been steadily abandoned and eroded by successive monarchs in the years that followed.

Following the revocation of the Charter, Samuel Adams' cousin, John Adams wrote that "Our charter was granted by King William and Queen Mary, three years after the revolution; and the oaths of allegiance are established by a law of the province. So that our allegiance to his majesty is not due by virtue of any act of a British parliament, but by our own charter and province laws... It is upon this, or a similar clause in the charter of William and Mary that our patriots have built up the stupendous fabric of American independence."

Many of our present day 'western' human rights spring from 1688 and 1776. The Encyclopaedia of Human Rights gives this summary: "The influence of the English Bill of Rights is evident in the Declaration of Independence; it set a precedent for the American colonists by declaring to their king that they had rights, the king had violated those rights, and they would not tolerate any such violations in the future... The American founders did not simply copy the ideas found in the English Bill of Rights; they modified and expanded upon those ideas in a way that reflects the political and philosophical environment of eighteenth-century colonial America."

## Liberty Exhibition

Our Ulster-Scots ancestors, whether in Ulster or America, have never been unthinkingly loyal. If so, they would have supported King James II against King William III. Instead, they had within them a profound sense of justice and liberty, which they have acted on throughout our more than 400-year existence. The philosophy behind that sense of justice and liberty, as well as the consequences it has had, are explored in the Liberty exhibition currently on display in the Museum of Orange Heritage in East Belfast. The exhibition was supported by the Ulster-Scots Agency. It is open to the public from Monday to Saturday and admission is free.



The Bill of Rights 1689 set out certain basic civil rights and clarified who would be next to inherit the Crown





# FREE EXHIBITION NOW OPEN

MUSEUM OF ORANGE HERITAGE  
368 CREGAGH ROAD, BELFAST, BT6 9EY  
CONTACT: 02890 701122  
INFO@ORANGEHERITAGE.CO.UK

OPEN MON-SAT, 10AM-5PM (LAST ENTRANCE 4PM)  
CONTACT US TO BOOK GROUP VISITS



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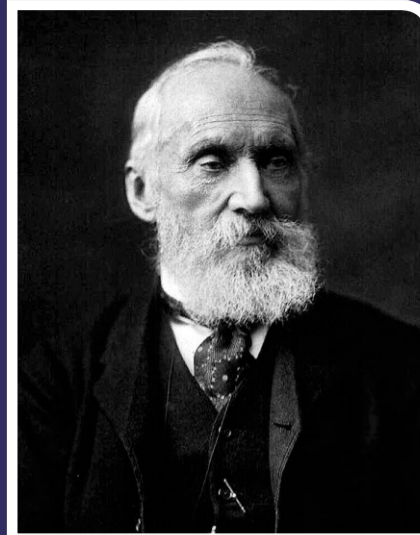
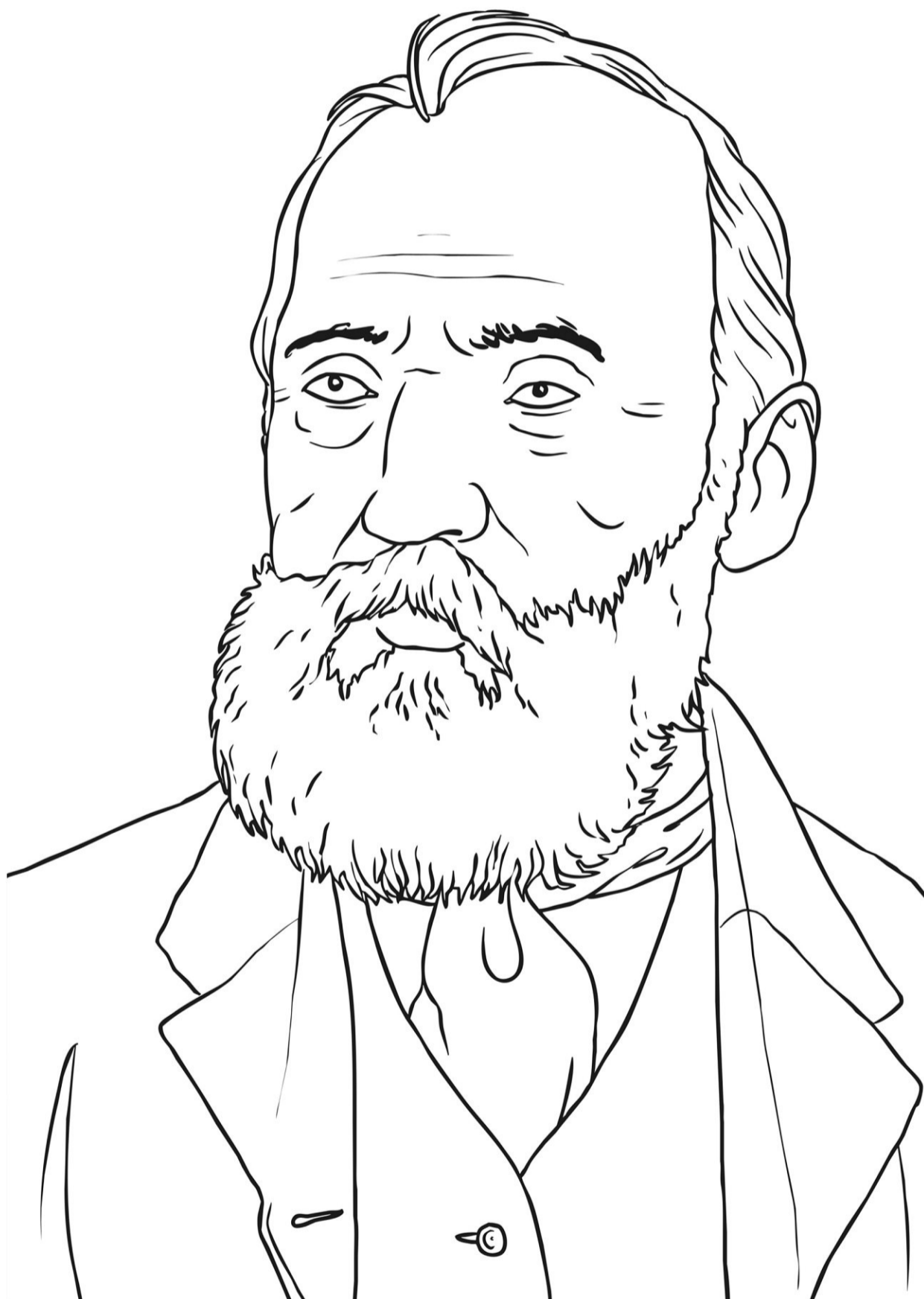
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# WEANS' WURLD

## Lord Kelvin



### ABSOLUTE ZERO

200 years ago in 1824, Lord Kelvin was born in Belfast as William Thomson. His dad, James, was a maths teacher in Royal Belfast Academical Institution.

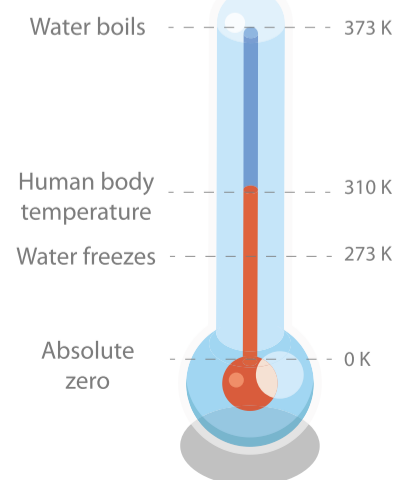
William was an Ulster-Scot and he was definitely not a numpty! He was a very clever man. He won many awards, including the Legion of Honour, and he even met Queen Victoria.

### Did you know?

Temperature can be recorded in Fahrenheit, Celsius or Kelvin.

Zero Kelvin (or absolute zero) is the coldest anything can possibly be. This is  $-273.15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Brrrrrr... you would be foundered!

#### KELVIN



### the Ulster-Scot COMPETITION

To be in with a chance of winning a W5 Family Pass (2 adults, 2 children), send your colouring-in to the address below, or answer the following question:

**Q: Lord Kelvin was an Ulster-Scot but where was he born?**

To enter, email your answer, name and contact details to [competition@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk](mailto:competition@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk) with 'Kelvin' as the subject line. You can also post your entry to: Competition, Ulster-Scots Agency, The Corn Exchange, 31 Gordon Street, Belfast, BT1 2LG. Closing date: Friday, August 2, 2024.