

Lecale News

Bulletin of the Lecale Historical Society

Number 8

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January 2005

Forthcoming Events for 2005

- Monday 17th January** *'History and Music of the Uilleann Pipes'* by Robbie Hughes.
- Monday 21st February** *'Ireland's Eye: the Photographs of R J Welch'* by Dr Brian Turner.
- Monday 14th March** **The St. Patrick's Festival Lecture:** *'Saint Patrick and Saint Columba: Comparisons and Contrasts'* by Cormac Burke.
- Monday 18th April** *'Landlord Response to the Famine in Co. Down: the Londonderry Estate'* by Trevor Parkhill.
- Monday 16th May** *Annual General Meeting*
- Monday 20th June** *Annual Outing* - Details in next bulletin.

Meetings in Down County Museum at 7.30pm

Attendances have been excellent at the events this year and we look forward to meeting you in the forthcoming months.

Lecale Review No. 2 (2004)

The second edition of the new-look journal was launched in November with its size increased from 72 to 96 pages. It has been very warmly received in and beyond the boundaries of Lecale. Many of the 500 copies have gone to members as a benefit of membership of the Society. Copies are on sale at the unchanged price of £7.00 in a wide range of outlets.

The Committee hopes you will enjoy the Review and asks for your support and **contributions** in the production of future editions. Short articles and photographs of local interest are particularly welcome.

Lecale Website

Visit the excellent website of the Lecale Historical Society at www.lecalehistory.co.uk

Membership News

The Society continues to have over 150 membership subscriptions representing almost 250 members. The previous large increase has been retained and there is still a slight improvement on last year with new members outnumbering the few we have lost. Increased membership gives the Society a greater ability to cater for the interests of the members. More members add to the variety of interests within the Society in valuing our history and environment, and increase its influence on our community. Also, a larger membership will greatly help the viability of our journal.

Do you have a relative or friend with an interest in local history? Please encourage them to join the Society – a bargain for £10. Show them your copy of the *Lecale Review*.

Join by seeing Pat Devlin at any meeting or phone him at 028 4461 2986. Thank you.

St. Patrick's Festival Lecture

Saint Patrick and Saint Columba: Comparisons and Contrasts

This year's lecture, by Cormac Bourke, is once again supported by Down District Council and is free to all members of the public.

Cormac Bourke has been Curator of Medieval Antiquities at the Ulster Museum since 1983. His research interests include the archaeology and history of the early Irish Church. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquarians and is Honorary Editor of the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*. He is author of *Patrick, the archaeology of a saint* and editor of a volume of *Studies in the cult of Saint Columba*.

Down County Museum

Monday 17th January

7.30pm

Membership Year

The Society's membership year runs from 1st April to the following 31st March. There is no need to re-join until then. The membership subscription of £10 per individual or £15 per family includes a free copy of our journal *Lecale review* and newsletters, as well as free entry to all lectures.

Details and membership slips will be sent out with the AGM Agenda in late April.

Local History Publications

Apart from our own *Lecale Review*, several other books of local historical interest have been published recently:

County Down at War 1850-1945 – Down Survey 2004 The latest yearbook of the Down County Museum is devoted to wartime history and a complementary copy has been sent to Society members who are not already Friends of the Down Museum. Price £8.

The Whitewashed City – The story of Crossgar Vol 1 by Tom Hewitt is a fascinating account of Crossgar history and the effect of county and national events upon it. The author is well qualified with a memory going back as far as the 1921 election. Vol. 2 is due early in 2005. Price £3.99.

The Steam Age in Ireland – A collection of railway art by the Lord O'Neill is a wonderful record of railway history and contains delightful pictures of the Belfast and County Down Railway. Published by Colourpoint Books at £30.

Irish Broad Gauge Carriages by Desmond Coakham also contains much about the BCDR. It is published by Midland Publishing at £14.99.

John M Andrews – Northern Ireland's wartime Prime Minister by Killyleagh author Clive Scoular also deals with other distinguished members of the noted Comber family. Price £9.99

The Men of the Ards by Harry Allen will appeal to anyone interested in County Down during 1798. Published by Ballyhay Books at £12.99.

A Happy and Historically interesting New Year
To all our Members