

Lecale News

Bulletin of the Lecale Historical Society

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September 2005

~ Programme of Events for 2005 ~

The 2005-06 Programme of the Society's events is enclosed with this newsletter. The lectures cover a wide range of topics with a particular focus on Lecale and should be of interest to members.

Meetings are held in Down County Museum (except October and June) at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month. The St.Patrick's Festival Lecture in March is on the second Monday to coincide with the rest of the Festival.

The Programme also gives details of the new committee for the coming year. Following Gordon Wheeler's retirement William Stranney has taken over as Press Officer. We thank Gordon for his valuable contribution to the Society. Recently Aven Flynn of Dundrum and Una Fitzsimons of Saul have been co-opted to the committee.

Attendances were excellent at the events last year and we look forward to seeing you throughout the coming year.

Brian Black Starts Programme

The eminent environmental broadcaster is the lecturer at the Society's first meeting of the season on **Monday 19th September**. Brian's topic is '*Strangford – a Film maker's view*'.

Brian is particularly well known for his numerous contributions to Ulster Television and the Society is fortunate in having him as one of its members. We look forward to him drawing on the wealth of his experience over many years.



Isle of Man Link

The Society's chairman, Brian Turner, will be visiting the Isle of Man in October, as a member of the International Committee for Regional Museums. Links between County Down and the Isle of Man were historically much stronger than is now remembered on either side of the water.

Any member with information on such links, or a desire to explore them, is invited to make contact.

Special Meeting in Dundrum

Last year the Committee decided to try to broaden the appeal of the Society throughout Lecale by staging some talks outside Downpatrick.

Following the success of Finbar McCormick's lecture and outing to Killough, the October meeting and the June Annual Outing will take place in Dundrum.

The meeting on **Monday, 17th October** will be held at 7.30pm in the Parish Community Centre in the grounds of the Roman Catholic Church (on right side entering village from Clough). Local historian Brownlow McClean will draw on his extensive collection of photographs to give an illustrated history entitled '*Down in Dundrum*'. This will be followed up by the Annual Outing on 19th June when Brownlow McClean will lead a guided walk around Dundrum.

Don't miss



'All Change: the Social Impact of the Railways' Exhibition at Down County Museum September 2005 – January 2006

Launch of Lecale Review 2005

In November we launch the third Lecale Review which records and encourages interest in our local history.

The President of the Society, Dr James Hawthorne, will be speaker at the Review launch on **Monday 21st November** and the evening will include musical entertainment and supper. This is a special evening for members to bring along friends and guests to take part in the occasion.

The Lecale Review 2005 is free to members (one copy per subscription) and additional copies will be available at £7 per copy.

Recent Publications

William J Roulston, *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors - The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600 - 1800*. (Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, 2005). £11.99.

W H Crawford, *The Impact of the Domestic Linen industry* (Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, 2005). £9.99.

Some Interesting Websites



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

Ulster Historical Foundation's websites are:
www.ancestryireland.com and

www.booksireland.org.uk

<http://www.proni.gov.uk/> now has plenty of local history information on the actual website as well as providing detailed directions as to where to get more at the Public Records Office.

<http://www.booksulster.com/> is excellent for getting old, out of print books and historical documents.

Also, you can now look up the content of the entire Topographical Dictionary of Ireland by Lewis, 1837, on its site for free. There is an online library too with lots of free articles and other historical material to read and download.

<http://www.killoughvillage.com/> is a good website for the history of the Killough village and district - as well as what is going on there today and tomorrow!

Membership Year

The Society's membership year runs from 1st April to the following 31st March. 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.

The recent membership drive has been sustained with the vast majority of subscriptions being renewed. The vitality of the Society depends on this and the recruitment of new members. You can help by encouraging a friend to join: use the form attached to your programme or simply send details and payment (£10 individual, £15 family) to Pat Devlin at 18 Ardmore Avenue, Downpatrick BT30 6JU. Cheques should be payable to Lecale Historical Society. Thank you.

Email: admin@lecalehistory.co.uk