

# Lecale News

Bulletin of the Lecale Historical Society

Number 24

[www.lecalehistory.co.uk](http://www.lecalehistory.co.uk)

May 2010

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## Forthcoming Events

**Monday 17th May**

*Annual General Meeting*

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

*Annual Outing - details below*

### **Meetings in Down County Museum at 7.30pm**

Attendances have been excellent at the events this year and we look forward to seeing you there.

### **AGM and Members' Night – Items of Interest**

### **BBC History of the World Project**

### **Monday 17th May at 7.30pm**

In recent years members have been encouraged to bring along items of interest following the formal AGM proceedings. This has proved to be one of the most interesting nights of the year with many fascinating and unexpected items being produced.

This year we are delighted to invite Miss Claire Burgoyne of the BBC History of the World project. She is particularly looking forward to seeing and photographing items of interest brought in by members.

We would urge members to bring along anything with a story or historical interest which might appeal to other members. On this occasion a special item which has been produced before can be shown again.

### **OUTING TO PORTAFERRY**

### **MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE AT 7.30pm**

This year's outing provides a rare opportunity for a sea journey when we travel to Portaferry for a guided walk around the fascinating town. The outing is organised in conjunction with the Upper Ards Historical Society.

The 7.30pm ferry from Strangford will suit most people and we will assemble opposite the Portaferry Hotel when the ferry arrives shortly afterwards

### **Lecale Website**

[www.lecalehistory.co.uk](http://www.lecalehistory.co.uk)

Visit the excellent website of the Lecale Historical Society and check the 1901 census.

## Lecale Review No. 8 (2010)

The eighth edition of the new-look journal will be launched in the autumn. Contributions are still required. Short articles and photographs of local interest are particularly welcome. You can bring them to the AGM.

Please contact *Berkley Farr* – Chairman of the Editorial Committee Tel: 028 4483 0442

## SOCIETY VICTORY ON LECAL COAST ~~~~~!

The Environment Minister Edwin Poots has backed the stand taken by the Lecale & Downe Historical Society in the Lecale Coast controversy. In December the Society formally objected to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency's proposal to remove the Tyrella/Minerstown section of the Lecale coast and its visual hinterland from the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The December meeting of the Society backed this action. Copies of the Society letter were sent to public representatives and Society member Eddie McGrady MP gave full support to our objections.

### Rock Art

I am appealing for information concerning unrecorded rock art sites (decorated tombs, outcrops and boulders etc.). For information regarding local rock art or to share information, please contact: [renlander01@qub.ac.uk](mailto:renlander01@qub.ac.uk) See Van Hoek's Irish rock art at: <http://rockartuk.zenfolio.com> Rebecca Enlander. Queens University, Belfast.

### Public Records Office Closure

PRONI are advising customers of a temporary change to service delivery between September 2010 and May 2011 in preparation for their forthcoming relocation to Titanic Quarter, Belfast. The temporary on-site closure will last no longer than 8 months. If the necessary work is completed before that, the re-opening date will be reviewed. For more information please visit their website at:

<http://www.proni.gov.uk/>

### Lecale Garden

The garden of Michael and Geraldine Galloway, 1 Ballytristan Road, Downpatrick will be open on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May – 2pm to 5pm under the National Trust's Ulster Garden Scheme.

This unique 7 acre garden lies four miles east of Downpatrick in the countryside of Lecale where it was created by Dr Magill over the last five decades of the Twentieth Century. He transformed a disused quarry into a large sheltered amphitheatre surrounded by trees and shrubs. The garden is noted for its collection of rhododendrons. Views into the garden as well as to the surrounding countryside are obtained from a circular path through the trees around the quarry rim. The present owners are rebuilding the house and have carried out considerable peripheral planting of native trees.

The garden is partially suitable for wheelchairs but children must be strictly supervised in view of the dangerous cliff faces.

**Location:** From Downpatrick follow the B1 Ardglass Road, but instead of turning right at the Downshire Hospital continue straight on towards Bishops Court and Ballyhornan. After Ballyalton turn left at the next crossroads into Ballytristan Road and the garden is on the right.

### Plant Stall/Teas



### Do you have a relative or friend with an interest in local history?

Please encourage them to join the Society – a bargain for £10 and includes a free copy of our annual journal *Lecale Review* and newsletters, as well as free entry to all lectures. Show them your copy of the *Lecale Review*.

The Society's membership year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April to the following 31<sup>st</sup> March. The membership subscription is £10 per individual or £15 per family.

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

*Berkley Farr*  
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