

<b>Report on</b>	Culture & Arts Progress Report
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Tony McCance

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members on the progress being made across Culture and Arts Services and to highlight events that have taken place during the previous quarter.
1.2	The report also highlights specific events and activities within Culture & Arts Services that is currently being developed by the officer team and which are planned to take place in the future.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council recognises the important role that Culture and Arts plays in today's society and recognises that access to high quality culture and arts performances, events and activities can enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of the local community of Mid Ulster while also showcasing the quality of the Culture and Arts offering to visitors to our District. The Culture and Arts activity delivered, including facility programming is designed to maximise engagement and participation from all sections of the community in the Culture and Arts Service provided by Mid Ulster District Council.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>Full details of key elements Culture and Arts Service provision for the previous quarter period is detailed in Appendix 1.</p> <p>During the period March through to June highlights of the programme of activity delivered through Arts &amp; Culture Services and across all functions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit to Seamus Heaney HomePlace by President Michael D. Higgins on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2018.</li> <li>• Launch of the Schools Heritage Animation Project at the Burnavon on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018</li> <li>• Jaipur Literature Festival links further enhanced with Seamus Heaney HomePlace following recent event held at the British Library in London</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Sensory Garden Opens at Seamus Heaney HomePlace</li> <li>• Three groups supported through Mid Ulster District Council's Regional and Minority Language Programme (Coiste Forbartha Charn Tóchair, Maghera Cairde Uí Néill, Coalisland and Glór Mhachaire Fíolta, Magherafelt) achieve success in this year's All-Ireland Glór na nGael community language competition.</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Within identified and agreed budgets approved by Council</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>Within identified staffing resources agreed and approved by Council</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p>Equality and Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>The Culture and Arts activity delivered, including facility programming is designed to maximise engagement and participation from all sections of the community in the Culture &amp; Arts Service provided by Mid Ulster District Council.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>Considered as part of the ongoing delivery of programme activity across the Culture and Arts Service function</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note activities undertaken within Culture and Arts Services over the last quarter period and to note planned activities currently being developed by the officer team as detailed under appendix 1.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 - Culture & Arts Service Update Report

### **Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre Arts & Culture Report April to June 2018**

#### **Square Box Events**

On Sunday 8 April, Mr Hullabaloo's Fairytale Farm, comprising of storytelling and puppetry, entertained children aged 3-6 years in the Square Box.

The newly formed Crafty Crows Band who are fast becoming a sought after band entertained the crowd on Friday 20 April.

On Saturday 21 April, two-time Meteor award winner, John Spillane made a return visit to the square box.

John Spillane



Ireland's premier tribute to the super group Fleetwood Mac brought their musical journey to Ranfurly House on Friday 4 May.

Mark Ferguson and Band along with special guest, Oonagh Derby performed an evening of soulful music on Saturday 12 May.



Mark Ferguson &  
Band

On Saturday 19 May, Lyngo Theatre presented Tom Thumb to a delighted audience of 3 to 7 year olds. Cbeebies Patrick Lynch, who has been performing this show for more than a decade, brought this classic story to life in a playful and fascinating show.

First time to grace the stage at Ranfurly House on Friday 25 May was *The Leading Ladies*, who were delighted to bring their highly acclaimed Country & Celtic Classics show to a well-received audience.



The Leading Ladies

The Ultimate American Country Show, the UK and Ireland's leading tribute to American Country legends performed in the Square Box on Saturday 2 June. The event was well attended.

As part of the Fleadh Cheoil Tyrone Activities from 17-24 June in Dungannon; Ranfurly House will host Ceol Connected 'The Quiet Tree' an intimate traditional Irish musical performance designed for children aged 3 to 7 years on Thursday 21 June. Flyers have been sent out to primary schools in the local area. Ranfurly House will also host the official opening concert on Friday 22 June with traditional musicians, Brid Harper and Dermot Byrne.

Brantry Bard Sessions Group as part of the Fleadh Cheoil Tyrone will host an evening of traditional music with Noel Hill & Brian McGrath on Thursday 21 June in the square box at 8pm.

The July Celebrations commence on Thursday 28 June with the Mini Tattoo on Hill of The O'Neill. Killyman District Cultural Group, in association with Killyman District LOL No. 1 are hosting their 328<sup>th</sup> celebration of the Battle of the Boyne. Music will be provided by marching bands from the local Dungannon area.



Mini Tattoo on Hill of The O'Neill

## Classes/Workshops

Classes and one day workshops are proving popular again this season. Adult evening classes included: Creative Writing; Guitar Lessons; Acrylic Painting and Mindfulness.

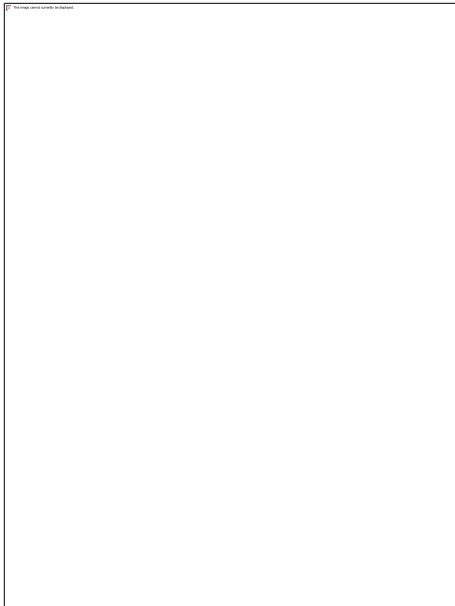
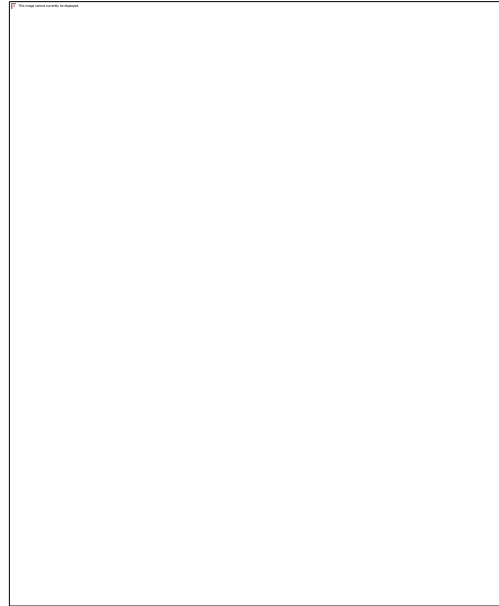
Adult one day workshops included: Watercolours; Portraiture for Beginners; Drawing with Pastels and Making Memories.

Children's classes/workshops included: Hip Hop Dance; Drama, Coloured Paper Clay and Glass Painting.



Adult Creative Writing Course with Fionnuala Cassidy

Guitar Course with tutor James Mulligan



Acrylic Painting Course with Brian Donaghy



Children's Coloured Clay with Shauna McCann



Children's Glass Painting with Shauna McCann



## History Forum

The Ulster History Circle unveiled the Edgar Harper Blue Plaque which took place on Wednesday 2 May at his birthplace, No. 3 Northland Place, Dungannon.



Cllr Mark Glasgow, Mr Peter Collins, Mr Namik Saygi & Mr Aidan Fee.

Cllr Mark Glasgow, Members of The Ulster History Circle & Dungannon History Forum



## History Forum talks

Brendan Holland delivered a very successful history talk on The Pioneers of Engineering on Friday 13 April in the Square Box.

Pat O'Neill, former Chief Executive of Powerscreen delivered a talk on The First 20 Years of the Powerscreen on Friday 11 May, which was very well attended.

## Arts & Disability Stakeholder Programme

The arts and disability programme for 2018-2019 commenced in May with Willowbank Community Resource Centre receiving a 4 week Printmaking Project with artist, Hazel Boland. Ardnaskea Court commenced their 8 week pottery project on 10 May with Shauna McCann. Participants from Dungannon Hospice started their 4 week Sea Grass project on 13 June with Deborah Malcomson and the Visually Impaired Group have just commenced a 4 week Print & Silk Printing project in Ranfurly House with Artist, Deborah Malcomson.



Willowbank Printmaking  
Project with Hazel Boland



Ardnaskea Court Pottery  
Project with Shauna Mc  
Cann

Dungannon Hospice Sea Grass  
Stool Making project with Deborah  
Malcomson







Visually Impaired Group  
Print & Silk Painting  
Project with Deborah  
Malcomson

## Exhibitions:

Exhibitions this season included three new exhibitors to Ranfurly House. In April, Louise Fleck exhibited her 'Where the wind blows; Ireland's diverse landscape of tranquil hills and dramatic coastlines' exhibition. Ranfurly House were delighted to showcase Louise's first ever art exhibition.

George Gourley who specialises in watercolours exhibited his 'Roots & Foundations' exhibition in May and Vincent McAllister's 'Fingerprints' exhibition is currently on view for the month of June.



Louise Fleck, Cllr Kim  
Ashton & Pat Walsh



Vincent McAllister  
June Exhibition

## Education Report

During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, 578 pupils/students with 55 staff (total 633) participated in education events at Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre.

### April 2018

- From 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> April 94 pupils with 10 members of staff from Coláiste Feirste, Belfast, took part in a Year 9 study of the Flight of the Earls and Plantation of Ulster. The Education Officer was assisted by the Irish Language Officer as these visits were conducted in English and Irish. One of the teachers wrote in an evaluation: "A very informative day for our Year 9 students that was appropriate to the curriculum."
- On 18<sup>th</sup> April the latest version of our poetry book, "Words On The Hill" was launched. Pupils from three schools which had taken part in an education programme of the same name contributed their own poems to the book. The participating schools were Lisfearthy Primary School; St Ciaran's College, Ballygawley; St. Patrick's Primary School, Annaghmore.



Words On The Hill: pupils  
from Lisfearthy Primary  
School with their class  
teacher



Words On The Hill:  
Year 9 pupils from St.  
Ciaran's College with  
their English teacher.

- Four classes of Year 9 pupils from Royal School Dungannon, with their teachers, took part in Year 9 study visits of the Flight of the Earls and Plantation of Ulster. These visits took place on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April. 88 children with 4 members of staff took part. Mr Paul Kerr, Head of History at RSD, wrote in his evaluation of the heritage activities: "Excellent at bringing the local aspect of these events to life."



## May 2018

- "Discovering Our Past", is a heritage education activity for schools and colleges which provides pupils with an opportunity to experience archaeology, and to discover the significance of the Hill of The O'Neill as an historical site of national and international importance. The programme is delivered by archaeologists from the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork at Queen's University, Belfast. 204



pupils and 22 staff from six local schools took part in this programme: St. Patrick's Primary School, Dungannon; Lisferty Primary School; Bush Primary School; St Mary's Primary School, Carland; St. Ciaran's College, Ballygawley.

A teacher from St. Patrick's Primary School wrote the



following in her evaluation of the programme: “The archaeologists who led this course were very informative and were excellent communicators. Their resources were excellent. The children thoroughly enjoyed being pupil archaeologists for the day. I would recommend this course.”

- On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May the Education Officer represented Mid Ulster District Council at a NILGA meeting at Clondeboye Estate. He was accompanying Brian Poots from the Northern Ireland Forest School Association, and he spoke of the positive experiences of NIFSA at Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House during the past year.
- “Victorian Dungannon” is a new addition to the education programme. It is a living history activity set in the Dungannon Branch of the Belfast Bank (now Ranfurly House). Four classes from two schools – Howard Primary School, Moygashel, and Holy Family Primary School, Magherafelt – participated from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May. A teacher from Holy Family Primary school wrote in her evaluation: “A fantastic tour and experience for all pupils. It was interactive and very informative. Pupils will remember this day fondly.”



- On the evening of 21<sup>st</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> Killyman Cubs and their leaders participated in the education programme. They took a tour of the exhibition and the Hill of The O'Neill so that they could find out more about the history of Dungannon. 18 children and 3 adults attended.

## **June 2018**

- A class of 24 pupils with 3 staff members from Drumglass High School took part in “Dungannon: Where I Live” on 13<sup>th</sup> June.
- Two Key Stage 3 classes from Gaelcholaiste Dhoire took part in a study of the Flight of the Earls and Plantation of Ulster. The Education Officer was assisted by the Irish Language Officer as these visits were conducted in English and Irish. 43 pupils and 3 members of staff from the college participated in this visit.



# Seamus Heaney HomePlace

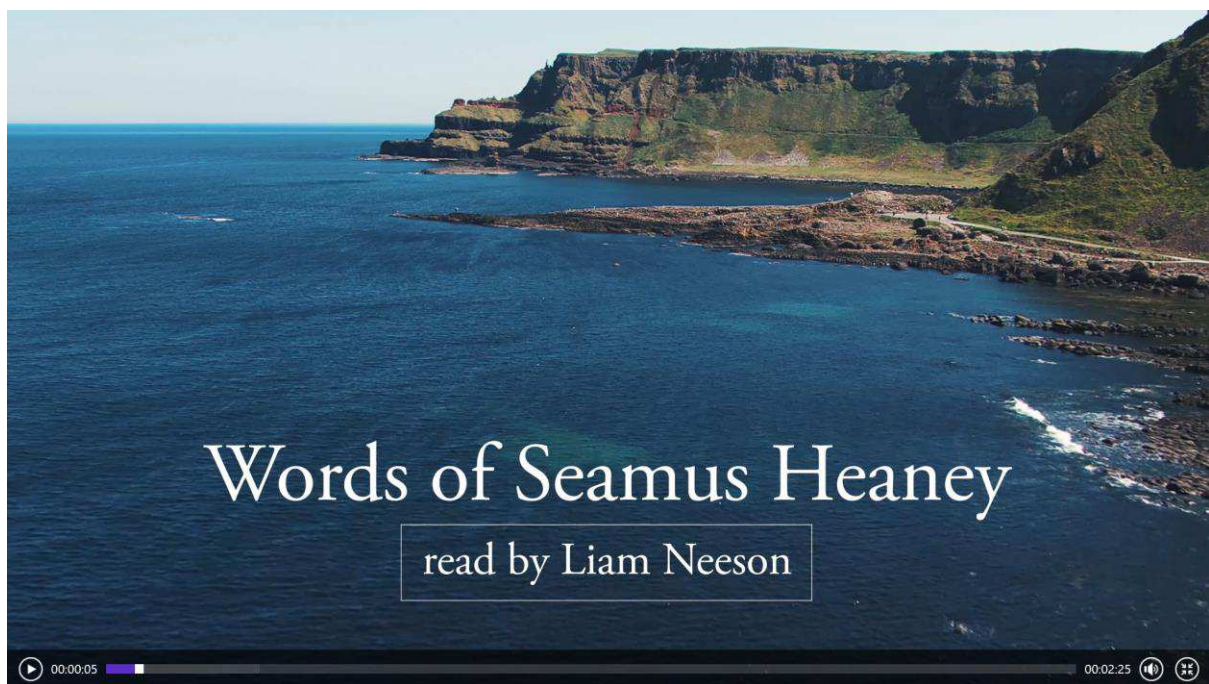
## Arts & Culture Report April to June 2018

### Liam Neeson video

HomePlace partnered with Tourism Ireland to create a video narrated by Liam Neeson. It was launched at an event in London attended by media and tourism professionals and representatives of the literary world. Kim Ashton, Chair, and Anthony Tohill and Brian McCormick attended from MUDC.

The video can be watched on our website

<http://www.seamusheaneyhome.com/home-place/>



### Presidential visit

President Michael D Higgins visited HomePlace on the 27<sup>th</sup> May where he visited the exhibition with his wife Sabina and Marie Heaney. They then attended an event within The Helicon where staff and invited guests got the chance to listen to President Higgins speak.

The visit picked up by many major media channels across the UK and Ireland including a feature on RTE news and UTV news.



### Promotional materials

The Step into HomePlace brochure is being updated to reflect the HomePlace audience and demographic of current visitor better. Updated photographs will be taken on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June to include in the new brochure.

To coincide with the Yeats Society Partnership, a brochure will showcase the 'About the Place' Summer Series of Events, and our exhibition. The brochure will create awareness with people attending the Yeats Summer School, encourage them to attend HomePlace, and the project has been supported by Peace 1V, through Community Development.

## Social Media

Videos are being used to create more interaction with the audience and to display review from those that have attended our exhibition, education programme and more.

## Tourism

HomePlace is involved with the work being carried out by Marks Consultancy with the Seamus Heaney Cluster through Invest NI funding.

Meetings are ongoing with hotels, tourist organisations and tour operators to generate more referrals and to encourage HomePlace being included within itinerates.

Itineraries and plans to incorporate HomePlace and surrounding businesses are being developed to be distributed to tourists and for the HomePlace website.

## The Big Walk

The Big Walk made HomePlace a stop on their UK & Ireland walk. The Big Walk, an idea from the Eden Project delivered with the National Lottery where four walkers set off from a central point in England and walk to their respective homes. Michael Conlon from Belfast stopped in at HomePlace and met with Bellaghy Women's Group. Michael is pictured here with Maureen Doyle of Bellaghy Women's Group.





### Gift Shop

A call-out to craft makers was carried out in May to refresh the offering in the shop and allow new makers the opportunity to apply. This was done with the help of Craft NI and the selected maker are due to have their products in place, for sale, by the beginning of July.

### **April - June Arts Programme**

The 2018/ 2019 programme started off strong with two sell out shows over one weekend – with readings from musician and writer Wilko Johnson and a lively, sold out reading by Marian Keyes.

We celebrated Poetry Day Ireland on 21 April with readings from four rising stars of Northern Irish Poetry – Stephen Connolly, Manuela Moser, Susie Dickey and Stephen Sexton, chaired by Damian Smyth of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.



*Marian Keyes in Conversation with Rick O'Shea*



In May we had two successful classical performances, one from pianist Barry Douglas and a welcome return for the Ulster Orchestra who once again brought their 'On Your Doorstep' series to Bellaghy.

Crime writer Val McDermid and past Poet Laureate Andrew Motion both visited to appreciative audiences in May. Looking forward to the rest of the summer season, we have strong audiences booked for our music events, Kieran Goss, Eliza & Martin Carthy and Declan O'Rourke and are looking forward to strengthening links with Sligo through the About the Place series of events which are being delivered through Peace IV.

We have also secured financial support from Film Hub NI to participate in Cinema Day NI on Monday 27 August where we will screen recent Northern Irish thriller *Bad Day for the Cut*, which will be followed by a Q&A with the director and producer.

### **Jaipur Literature Festival at the British Library/ Dalkey Book Festival**

In June, Cathy Brown Arts Programmer travelled to the Jaipur Literature Festival at the British Library in London to continue to build on the links made with this organisations and to showcase the work that both organisations are doing on an international stage.

Cathy will also travel to the Dalkey Book Festival in June to present a screening of the Seamus Heaney documentary *Something to Write Home About* and a discussion on the work being done at HomePlace and the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry with Glenn Patterson.



Both these events also provide a great opportunity for networking with a range of writers and publishers to make connections for future programming.

## **Future Planning**

The new season Arts Programme Brochure will with designers Mid June and all events will be available for sale by the end of July. Containing a wide range of theatre, music and discussion events, along with a workshop programme, the season includes a return visit to HomePlace by Paul Muldoon, Roger McGough and Helen Pankhurst who will explore 100 years of suffrage. Music will be performed by Iarla O'Lionard and Steve Cooney, there will be a showcase of local talent in Music From the HomeLand and Anthony Toner will present a Christmas show featuring Neil Martin, Glenn Patterson and Frank Ormsby.

Planning is already well under way for the 2019 programme with visits planned from authors Colum McCann and David Mitchell and acclaimed UK poet Wendy Cope.

## **Education Programme**

### Empower

Final preparations are underway to welcome the Empower Project (Magherafelt/Antrim) to HomePlace. The focus of the project is to 'support children under 12 with autism, dyslexia, and dyspraxia, their parents and the wider family circle to enhance confidence and learn together to develop skills and support their children'. HomePlace will host an ASD-friendly film screening for these children and their families, showing the animation 'Early Man', planned for the end of July '18.

### Sensory Garden

Work on the sensory garden at HomePlace is complete, with a launch due to take place Mid June. We will welcome Kilronan School, St Mary's P.S. and Bellaghy P.S., and local children will read out the poems around which the garden has been developed. It is hoped that going forward we might draw on the garden as an educational resource with which pupils can interact to learn about the world around them, and Seamus Heaney's poetry. Staff have developed a draft sensory garden educational programme for Foundation Stage–Key Stage 3 pupils. Lesson plans will be developed based on this programme in the coming weeks.

## Head Over Heels Event



*Photo courtesy of Queen's University Belfast.*

HomePlace was delighted to welcome Myra Zepf, the Children's Writing Fellow for Northern Ireland, Damian Smyth, Head of Literature and Drama at the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, PJ Lynch (Laureate na nÓg) and acclaimed children's author Dave Rudden for the culmination of the 'Head Over Heels' project. Following months of creative writing (and classes and brainstorming sessions with Myra), pupils from 25 schools across Northern Ireland produced stories which were entered into a competition, and the winners' tales were narrated and animated live in an event much enjoyed by all attendees.

## KS5 Lecture Series

Planning has begun for the 2019 series, to take place on the following dates: January 31<sup>st</sup>, February 5<sup>th</sup>, February 11<sup>th</sup>, February 12<sup>th</sup>, February 14<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>, February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup>, and March 19<sup>th</sup>. Lecturers Professor Fran Brearton (QUB) and Dr Frank Ferguson (UU) have agreed to deliver these lectures. Two schools have already been in touch to provisionally book sessions and further schools have contacted to enquire as to whether the programme will be running again in 2019.

## A Kite for Aibhín

The workshop 'A Kite for Aibhín' ran throughout April, and again had a good take-up rate, with seven schools participating. Several schools have expressed an interest in bringing new KS2 groups back to HomePlace to participate in the programme next year.



# **Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre**

## **Arts & Culture Report April to June 2018**

### **Programme of Events**

The Spring / Summer programme of events and workshops is performing well. The programme is extensive with a variety of performances and activities to cater for all.

During April to June 31 staged performances ranging from Community Groups, Schools to professional touring artists.

Conal Gallen	6 <sup>th</sup> April	
Cliona Hagan	7 <sup>th</sup> April	
We'll Walk Hand in Hand	13 <sup>th</sup> April	
Philomena Begley & Ray Lynam	15 <sup>th</sup> April	
Ulster Orchestra	18 <sup>th</sup> April	
Rat in the Skull	19 <sup>th</sup> April	
Cookstown Youth Choir with Peter Corry	20 <sup>th</sup> April	
The Kings and Queens of Country	26 <sup>th</sup> April	
The Great American Song Book (Sperrin Choir)	27 <sup>th</sup> April	
Mary Black	28 <sup>th</sup> April	
Cash Returns	4 <sup>th</sup> May	
Rock & Roll Years	12 <sup>th</sup> May	
Dominic Kirwin	17 <sup>th</sup> May	
Three Billy Goats Gruff	22 <sup>nd</sup> May	2 performances
Myths of the Vikings	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	2 performances
Green Day's American Idiot (SWC)	25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> May	
Mathematical Mysteries	4 <sup>th</sup> June	2 performances
The Wizards of Oz (Derrychrin Primary)	6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> June	4 performances
Blues Brothers & Sister Act (Superstars)	9 <sup>th</sup> June	
Musical Extravaganza (Holy Trinity Primary)	13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> June	4 performances
Maggie Yer Ma	30 <sup>th</sup> June	

The current programme runs to end of summer with a number of children focussed workshops programmed for July and August. The Burnavon autumn/winter programme for September – January will be available to customers by end of July.



Above: Cookstown Youth Choir with Peter Corry performance April 2018



Above: Cast from Superstars Drama Group performing Sister Act June 2018



Above Myths of the Vikings (school performance) May 2018





Above Derrychrin Primary School performing The Wizard of Oz June 2018



**Tickets: £8 per child**  
**Family ticket: £35**  
**Please ask at Box Office**



# Kids Workshops

Suitable for  
Ages 4 +

**Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 June**

**Session 1\*** 9am - 10am (quiet hour)  
**Session 2** 10am - 12pm  
**Session 3** 12.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Session 4** 3pm - 5pm

**\* Please Note:** The 9am - 10am sessions will be a quiet hour which is aimed at children with Autism.

The Brickx Club provides the opportunity for children and adults to utilise LEGO® through creative brick building.

Workshop held during Continental Markets





Ulster Orchestra performed April 2018

## Conference / Meeting Bookings

The Burnavon continues to have a high level of demand for meeting and conference facilities for both internal bookings and a range of external private and public bodies.



Above Mid Ulster District Councils EcoSpeak Competition

## Events

### Easter Family Fun Day

The Easter Family Fun Day took place on Saturday 24 March 2018. There were over 2000 people in attendance, enjoying a day of family entertainment and taster workshops for children within the centre and plenty of street entertainment to promote the town centre.

Quote from parent:

“It was absolutely fantastic and so well organised, the children had a brilliant time, and so did we!”

Quote from child:

“I had so much fun, the puppet show was so funny – It made me laugh! And I loved getting my face painted too.”



Brick for Kids workshop and Drumming workshop







**Some of the street and theatre entertainment during the Easter Family Fun Day**





## Arts and Crafts from Around the World

To celebrate World Culture Day the Burnavon held a fun day with a mix of different activities on offer. These included Thai fan and sand painting; Polish Paper Craft; Russian Head Bands; Russian Dolls; and Lithuanian Mini Weaving.



Those who attended the event were also able to sample receive some taster sessions in Irish Dancing, Zumba and Highland Dancing.

Quote from parent:

“It was great to see such a diverse range of activities on offer, my children got to try things they have never even seen before, we thoroughly enjoyed the event.”





## Outreach Programme

Our Arts & Cultural Development Programme continues to grow and diversify offering a wider range of participants the opportunity to engage in Arts & Cultural activity within the community.

Our Outreach Programme for this period included working with:

- Cookstown Adult Centre and the Satellite Centre Cookstown on a project called “One”. Complete.
- Cookstown Primary School Learning Centre on a project called “Creative Kids”. Complete.
- Tullaghoge Fort – Education Week – 10 local primary schools. Complete.
- Holy Trinity Primary School Learning Unit – project ongoing.
- Drapersfield House Residential House – project ongoing
- Animation Project / Heritage Site Resources. Complete.

Included within this report is detail on the project completed.

## Exhibitions

### Exhibition / Outreach Programme

#### ‘One’

Date: 02 April – 30 April March



Cookstown Adults centre and the Satellite centre participated in our Spring programme of visual arts workshops facilitated by artist Gwen Stevenson. This exhibition showcased one piece of work from every participant, reflecting their personality and interests. The project was funded by the Arts & Cultural Development Programme, Burnavon.

Artist Gwen Stevenson who worked with the group each week commented on the programme:

"I was delighted to work with the participants and see their individual art works emerge over the eight week course. Each piece reflected their individual personality and interests, as well as the amount of energy and enthusiasm they invested in the whole process from start to finish. As a body of work, the outcome is colourful, diverse and multi-layered reflecting the diversity and character of the group that produced it."

Mona McCann,  
Manager of  
Cookstown Adult  
Centre was  
delighted that the  
centre and  
Satellites were  
able to take part  
in this project:

"During the visual arts project, our service users were encouraged to express themselves therapeutically through their art work. At the launch event when the artwork was unveiled each participant took great pride in their work and enjoyed telling everyone about their experience and achievements.

Feedback was very positive, one service user said "It was something different and it was good fun". Another stated "I enjoyed doing something different every week and

it was nice to meet my friends. I enjoyed the art project and I liked working with different art materials."



## Kyle Barnes – New Works (Exhibition)

Date: Tuesday 01 May – Thursday 31 May 2018

Artist: Kyle Barnes



Kyle brought a collection of large scale portraits of Veterans to the Burnavon. The work primarily considered the personal impact of each person's experience and the ways their life had been changed as a result.

From Cookstown, and currently working in Southampton, Kyle has won the Towry prize at the National Open Art Competition and exhibited at the prestigious Pallant House Gallery in Chichester. He further won the 'Young Artist Award' and the 'People's Choice' Award at the Royal Ulster Academy Belfast in 2014. In 2015 he was awarded the Tyrone Guthrie Residency and in 2017 the Whyte's Award at the Royal Hibernian Academy. His work is included in many private and public collections.



## **Creative Kids / Outreach Programme**

### **Cookstown Primary School**

Date: Friday 01 June – Saturday 30 June

Artists: Andrea Hayes and Louise Byrne with pupils from the Learning Support Centre in Cookstown Primary School.

The project was funded through the Arts and Cultural Development Programme within the Burnavon, artists Andrea Hayes and Louise Byrne have been working with pupils from the Learning Support Centre in Cookstown Primary School. All pupils have been hands on in creating many artworks including felt and clay. This collaboration of work is currently being exhibited in the Burnavon during June 2018 and then returning to the Learning Support Centre as a permanent piece for everyone to enjoy.



Teacher Sharon Cuddy from the Learning Support Centre in Cookstown Primary School commented on the 12 week programme:

“The children in the Learning Support & Autism Classes spent some very therapeutic Friday mornings both with Andrea and Louise over a 12 week period. The children were engaged in the activities and enjoyed the multi-sensory experiences which both art forms offered.

The programme helped to develop their fine motor skills, a tolerance to touch a variety of new materials, and encouraged them to be creative. It was a huge motivator for the children on a Friday morning, knowing that felt making or clay work awaited them, with some children wanting to make additional pieces since the course completed. The fact that it was so different to their usual experience of Art, and that their work would be on display for the public to see was also very exciting for them. The staff and children from Cookstown Primary School would like to express their thanks to artists Andrea & Louise, to the Burnavon for organising and finally to Mid Ulster District Council for funding the programme. It was a great experience for all and one which the children will remember for a long time.”



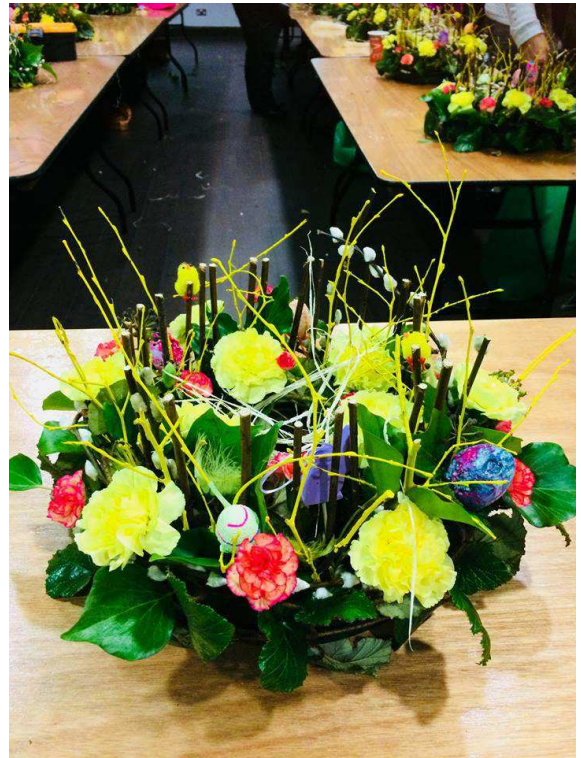


## Workshops

### Workshops at the Burnavon

We held a number of workshops in the Burnavon since mid-March. Workshops included:

- Easter floral Art
- Comic Book Art
- Jiving
- Watercolours
- Ceramics
- Basket Weaving
- Textile Art
- Animating with Plasticine
- Father's day card and Present making



## Links with Schools

### First Theatre Visit

Over 150 three and four year olds attended a show on 22 May under the project “My First Theatre Visit”. The project is about introducing performing arts to young children to create a love for theatre and develop audiences and relationship with nurseries and schools. Clydebuilt Puppet Theatre presented a fantastic show telling the stories of the Three Billy Goats Gruff and Jack and the Bean Stalk.



Faithful to the original stories, Clydebuilt created a show with baskets and boxes that became a house and even a castle! The children were given a fantastic opportunity to let their imaginations run wild!

Dungannon Nursery School said of the event “thank you for the opportunity to visit the theatre for the puppet show on Tuesday. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day and we appreciate your invitation.”





## **Myths of the Vikings**

On 23 May Clydebuilt Puppet Theatre Company presented a Vikings themed show for key stage 2 pupils. Pupils met LOKI, the mischievous shape changer, heard the comic story of Apples of the Gods, and felt the thrill of storytelling, just as the children of the Norse once did. The performance linked to the school curriculum for P6 children who attended the performance.

Beautiful wooden puppets, shadow theatre and masterly story telling made this a wonderful show, bringing ancient times to life.

## **Education Week at Tullaghoge Fort**

Six Mid Ulster primary schools recently enjoyed complimentary tours and Living History sessions delivered by Mid Ulster District Councils, through the programme at the Burnavon.

The purpose of the visit was to introduce local children to Tullaghoge Fort and its historical significance within Mid Ulster.



During the visit children enjoyed a tour of Tullaghoge Fort and were treated as guests attending the May celebration, Beltaine. They were invited to take part in activities which would have taken place in 1600 such as sword fighting, running races, the arrangement of marriages, feasting and the crowning of the O'Neill.







## **Animation Project / Educational Resources**

### **Animation Project**

The overall aim of the Animation Project was to develop links between arts and cultural activity and a number of the key heritage sites within the region namely Tullaghoge Fort, Beaghmore Stone Circles, Ardboe Cross and Abbey and The Hill of the O'Neill.

The Nerve Centre were appointed to create comic books telling the stories of each of the sites in a way which is interesting for children. A narrative was developed, with the assistance of identified experts on each of the sites, and two comic books were produced:

- Tullaghoge Fort and Hill of the O'Neill in one.
- Beaghmore Stone Circles and Ardboe High Cross in the other.

Graphic art is reflective of the theme / period of each of the sites.

The Nerve Centre also worked with approximately 120 students within local schools to develop resources for Key Stage 2 students.

They worked with 4 schools, who each focused on a different heritage site:

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| • Tullaghoge Fort         | Ballytrea Primary School (Stewartstown)        |
| • Hill of the O'Neill     | Windmill Integrated Primary School (Dungannon) |
| • Beaghmore Stone Circles | St Joseph's Primary School (Killennan)         |
| • Ardboe Cross            | St Patrick's Primary (Ardboe)                  |

The workshops piloted the comic books with a primary school audience and gave key stage 2 classes the skills they needed to produce an animation and complete the tasks as set out in the educational resource within the comic books.

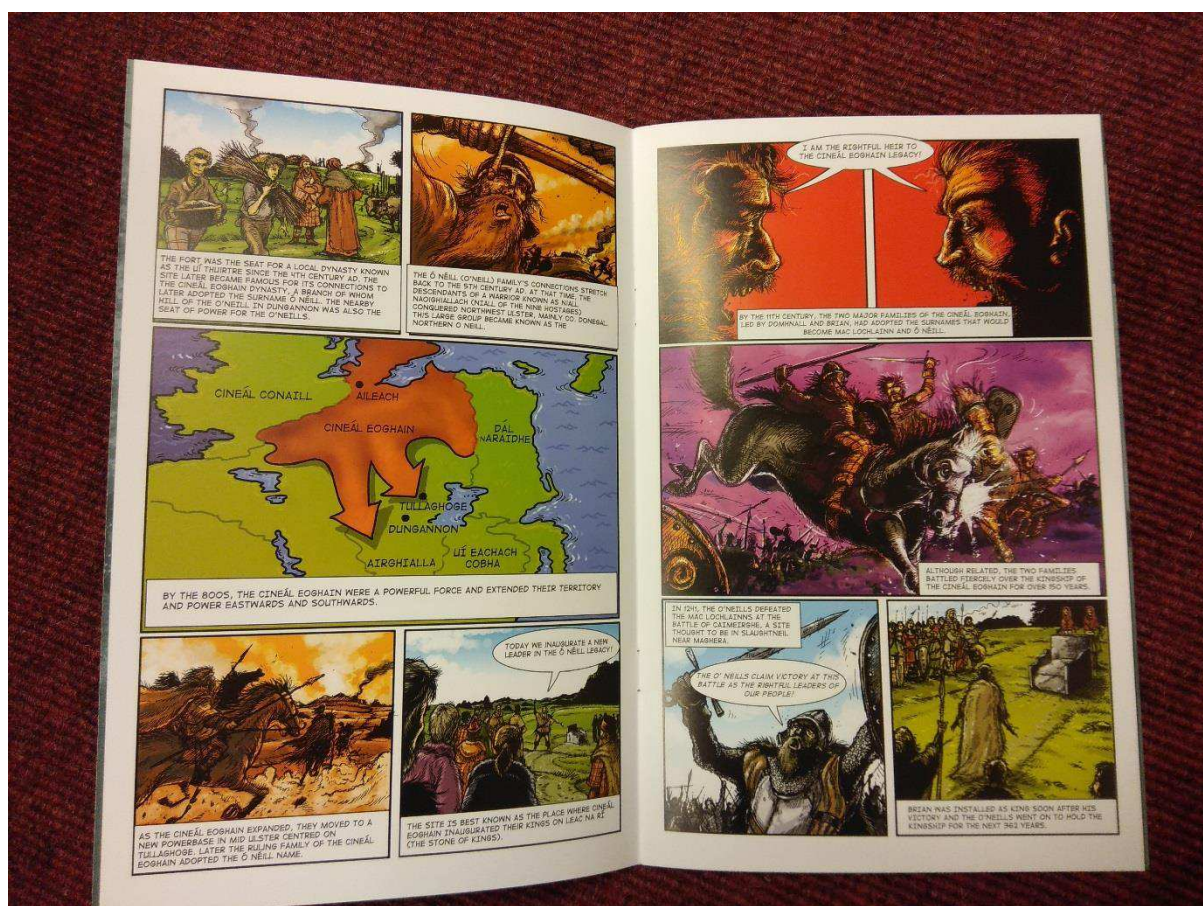
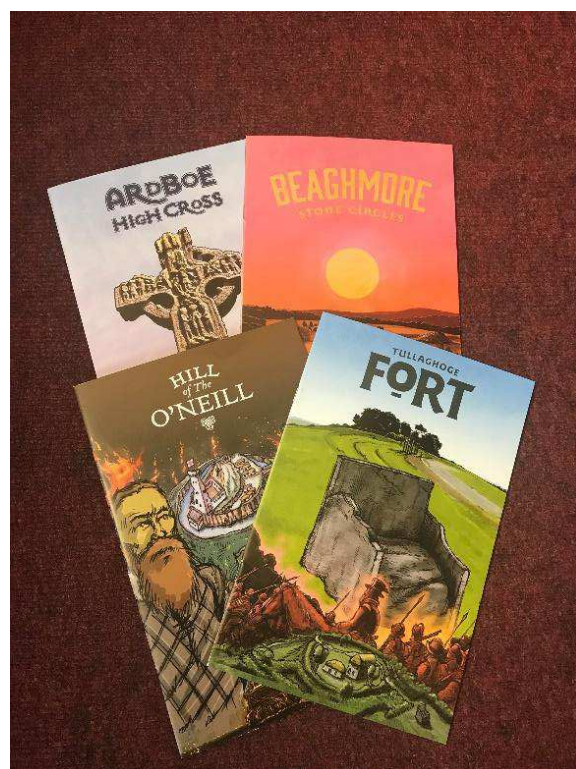
The comic books themselves will help to engage the youth in the arts activity while also interpreting understanding and heritage of the regions key sites for a young audience.

Each of the sites are managed by the Department of Communities who were involved in the process throughout.

The project is joint funded by MUDC and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland through its Lottery- funded Local Government Challenge Fund.

On 18 June the comic books were launched at the Burnavon, Cookstown. Participating schools attended along with representatives from the Department of Communities and all those who had a role in making the Comic Books.

Below are some images of the resources and images of the launch.











### **Support Services (weekly)**

The following weekly sessions continue to be delivered as part of the Burnavon programme and its associated outreach programme.

- Cookstown Folk Club
- Burnavon Writers Group
- Cookstown Youth Choir
- Traditional Music in Schools Project (delivered in local schools)
- Superstars Club Musical Theatre Group



## Summer Activities

During July and August we will have a number of workshops planned for kids. We will also hold our July Celebration concert.



A vibrant blue poster for the Summer Scheme at The Burnavon. At the top is a cheerful sun character with a smiling face, wearing dark sunglasses and having a small heart on its chest. Below the sun, the word "SUMMER" is written in large, colorful, blocky letters (S: yellow, U: pink, M: green, M: orange, E: blue, R: yellow). Underneath "SUMMER" is the text "Scheme at The Burnavon" in a smaller, white font. The dates "Mon 30 July - Fri 03 August" are prominently displayed in yellow and pink. Below the dates, the activities "Candle Making, Clay tiles, Animation with iPads, Jumping Clay and Canvas Painting" are listed in white. The times "11am - 1pm daily" and "2pm - 4pm daily" are shown next to "Ages 5-8" and "Ages 8-11" respectively. The cost "£35 for 1 week" is listed. A yellow starburst graphic on the right says "BOOK PLACES EARLY!". At the bottom left, the box office contact "028 8676 9949" and the website "www.burnavon.com" are provided. At the bottom right is the logo for Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh Mid Ulster District Council.

**SUMMER**  
Scheme at The Burnavon

**Mon 30 July - Fri 03 August**

Candle Making, Clay tiles, Animation with iPads, Jumping Clay and Canvas Painting

**Times** 11am - 1pm daily Ages 5-8  
2pm - 4pm daily Ages 8-11

**Cost** £35 for 1 week

**BOOK PLACES EARLY!**

Box Office 028 8676 9949 Book Online [www.burnavon.com](http://www.burnavon.com)

Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh Mid Ulster District Council



A purple poster for the July Celebrations Concert. The background features a close-up, slightly blurred image of a person playing a guitar. At the top, in a purple banner, it says "SHOWCASING TALENT IN MID ULSTER". The title "July Celebrations" is in large, white, stylized letters, with "CONCERT" in smaller white letters below it. The headline act "Stonewall" is written in a large, white, cursive font, with "Folk Band" in smaller white letters below it. The text "With Tenor Drummer Danielle Hamilton" and "Sollus Highland Dancers" is listed. The special guest compere "Gary Wilson" is also mentioned. The date and time "Saturday 7 July, 8pm" are prominently displayed, along with the ticket prices "£10 / £8 concession". The website "www.burnavon.com" and the phone number "028 8676 9949" are at the bottom. The logo for Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh Mid Ulster District Council is in the bottom right corner.

SHOWCASING TALENT IN MID ULSTER

**July Celebrations**  
CONCERT

Headline Act  
**Stonewall**  
Folk Band

With  
Tenor Drummer  
**Danielle Hamilton**  
Sollus  
**Highland Dancers**  
Special Guest Compere  
Gary Wilson

**Saturday 7 July, 8pm**  
£10 / £8 concession

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028 8676 9949

Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh Mid Ulster District Council

# **Irish Language Update Report (June 2018)**

## **Irish Language Activity Funding**

23 groups submitted applications to the Irish Language Activity Fund which was launched at the end of April in relation to implementing Irish Language activity into their programmes in 2018-2019. These range from youth, sports, drama, educational and cultural based groups. These applications are presently being processed by the Officer team.

## **Regional & Minority Language Bursary Grants**

The public call for Regional & Minority Language Bursaries attracted 142 applications. All Applications are being processed at present by the Language Officer Team.

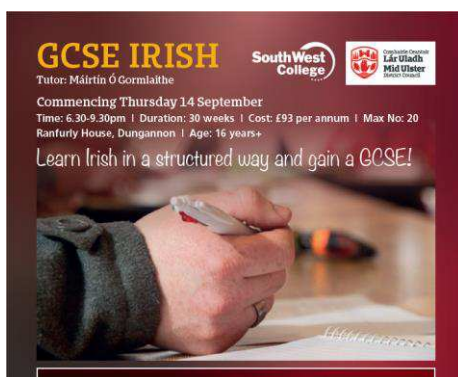
## **Promoting Opportunities to Learn**

The Tuesday morning class at Burnavon continues to prove popular. The last class was held at the beginning of June and will commence again in September, when we will also be launching a second level of classes. The classes provided at the Burnavon will then be Bunrang (for beginners) and Meánrang – (for intermediate learners).

## **GCSE Irish Class in conjunction with South-West College**

15 out of the 16 students who enrolled in our GCSE Irish class in conjunction with South-West College have now completed their course. Examinations were sat in June and students now await their results, which are to be released in August.

The Officer team plan to arrange an evening of celebration to mark this occasion in August when students have received their results and the team are also currently arranging for the continuation of this course to start in September 2018.



*Publicity used for our GCSE Irish class*

### **TÚS / NASC – Monthly Bootcamps**

The monthly Bootcamps - TÚS and NASC - took place in both April and May, which was the final Bootcamp for the year 2017-2018. They were very well received and due to the excellent feedback from attendees, The language Officers are now arranging for the programme to continue in the 2018-2019 academic year, commencing in September. The Language Officers are also investigating the possibility of extending the range of services available in Burnavon by adding a beginners class to the intermediate class already on offer and exploring local demand for intensive courses.

### **Cór Lár Uladh – Irish Youth Choir**

The first year of providing an Irish Youth Choir – Cór Lár Uladh - under the direction of Karen Kirby came to a close in May. The project has received excellent feedback from the parents of the children who attended. As a result the officer team are currently arranging for the continuation of this programme to recommence in September 2018.



*Cór Lár Uladh logo*



## Oíche Lainseála Champa Chormaic - Campa Chormaic Launch Night

Campa Chormaic 2018 was launched at Hill of the O'Neill & Ranfurly House in April. The launch night was completed through the medium of Irish with English translation also. Guest speakers included Noel McGrath, Tipperary hurler. Campa Chormaic has previously received financial support from MUDC through the Irish Language Activity Funding.



*Noel McGrath pictured with the 2018 Campa Chormaic jersey at the Oíche Lainseála / Launch Night on the Hill of the O'Neill*

## Amhránaithe Lár Uladh – BBC

The Officer team have been contacted by the BBC and asked to arrange Irish speakers from the district who were able to sing and take part in a new series for Blas Cheoil on BBC Radio Ulster focusing on the talent that we have within Mid Ulster. The recording event was held in An Creagán.

A promotional poster for the 'Amhránaithe Lár Uladh' series. The poster has a purple background on the left with white text, and a photograph of a woman sitting on a stone wall on the right. The text on the poster includes:

**Amhránaithe Lár Uladh**

Cuireann Gráinne Holland amhránaithe ó cheantar Lár Uladh inár láthair ó ionad An Chreagáin, Co. Thír Eoghain ó 19.30.

Craolfar an tsraith ar BBC Raidió Uladh le linn an tsamhraidh.

**Déardaoín 10ú Bealtaine**  
Jack Warnock  
Niamh McEluff  
Daniel Donnelly

**Aoine 11ú Bealtaine**  
Loinnir McAliskey  
Peadar Mac Gabhann  
Bernadette Morris

Bigi linn!

*Recent publicity for Amhránaithe Lár Uladh*

## **Dáil Mhór Chomhaltas Uladh**

Dáil Mhór Chomhaltas Uladh was held in Hill of the O'Neill & Ranfurly House. An Irish Language Officer arranged this after being approached by the group. It was significant for MUDC to be involved in such an important convention where a new president was elected to post as well as a new secretary.



*Niall Comer (previous president of Comhaltas Uladh) pictured with Ursula Ní Shabhaois, newly-elected president and Seán Antón Ó Conalláin, newly-elected secretary.*

## **National Award Winners**

Three groups from Mid Ulster were successful in this years All-Ireland Glór na nGael community language competition;

- Coiste Forbartha Charn Tóchair, Maghera
- Cairde Uí Néill, Coalisland
- Glór Mhachaire Fíolta, Magherafelt

Two Mid Ulster schools were successful in the national art competition Comórtas Ealaín Chonradh na Gaeilge, these are;

- Bunscoil Naomh Bríd Tír Chiana, Maghera
- Gaelscoil Eoghain, Cookstown

Officers will be arranging a celebration event for these groups and schools later in the year.