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# THE ORANGE STANDARD

"LIFT UP A STANDARD FOR THE PEOPLE" ISAIAH 62:10

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**Tribute to Rt. Wor. Bro. Roy Kells**

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**Cheque presentations**

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**Awards in Fermanagh**

See page 13

# Pension legislation signed

## Victims of Troubles to receive annual payments

**In one of his final acts as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Julian Smith MP signed new legislation establishing a victims' payments scheme.**

This scheme acknowledges the harm caused to those people injured through no fault of their own in the Troubles through annual payments of £2,000 to £10,000 for the rest of their lives.

Changes have been made to the scheme to increase the number of injured people who will qualify, and to benefit spouses and carers looking after those who were seriously injured.

The Troubles had a profound and often devastating impact on many people, something keenly felt within the Orange Family.

The Orange Institution has a proud record of service and sacrifice, not only in global conflicts but also at home, where a high proportion of members served in the security forces during a 40-year terrorist campaign.

340 members were murdered during this period – almost 10% of all of those killed in the Troubles. It is clear that any payment or pension for victims is going to be relevant to many of members of the Orange Institution.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland submitted a detailed response to the consultation on the Troubles Related Incident Victims Payment Scheme. Contained within that document was the clear opposition to anyone who set out to maim, murder and cause mayhem benefiting from the scheme in any way.

Continued on page 4




Bros. Keith Hamilton, Robert McKee and Deputy District Master of Banbridge District Bro. Stuart Magill pictured at the launch of the Kilimanjaro Hiking for Little Heroes Challenge in Banbridge Orange Hall. Full story on page three. Picture: Graham Balhaam-Curry

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THE ORANGE STANDARD
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# EDITORIAL

## All change as Smith gets his marching orders

**Northern Ireland was battered for much of the month of February by gale-force winds, heavy rain and even a sprinkling of snow.**
**However, it was in the political arena that much of the impact was felt as the winds of change blew through.**
**Julian Smith MP - much heralded in some quarters for driving through the 'New Decade, New Approach' deal which saw the Stormont Executive return - lost his job as the first in a raft of changes made by Prime Minister Boris Johnson.**
**The decision to unceremoniously dump Mr Smith just before Valentine's Day was met with shock in the Northern Ireland political scene and perhaps even more so in the Republic of Ireland.**
**In fact, the glowing tributes paid to Mr Smith from south of the border goes some way to indicate just how close a working relationship he had developed with Leo Varadkar and Simon Coveney.**
**There is no clear reason for the change. Mr Smith had been in the role just 204 days and with an Executive up and running there had been much speculation that he would stay in post. However, reports in the mainstream media had indicated possible clashes with the Mr Johnson over legacy provision in the New Decade, New Approach deal.**
**Whatever the reason we now have a new man in the hotseat. Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland senior officers met Julian Smith numerous times prior to the deal being agreed - indeed he was a welcome visitor to the Museum at Schomberg House in November - and he always appeared receptive to the opinions presented to him. Did they hit home when it came to the crunch? Judging by some of the content of the deal it appears not.**
**For now, Brandon Lewis MP, a former Chairman of the Conservative Party, will be settling into his new post and no doubt taking stock of a full in-tray with lots of important issues to be dealt with.**
**It's also all change in the Republic of Ireland where Sinn Fein swept to significant gains in the general election.**
**They did not secure the most seats - that honour goes to Fianna Fail - but there's just one seat in it.**
**At the time of going to press no coalition had been formed with Sinn Fein expressing frustration with neither Fianna Fail or Fine Gael willing to work with them. We can only wonder why that is?**

## Man fined for gesture

**A man who made gestures and used offensive language at a Junior Orange Order parade in Portrush last year has been fined £500. He admitted making the gesture towards a flute band accompanying the parade. He was also convicted of a charge of disorderly behaviour. PSNI are to be congratulated on bringing this case before the courts and securing a conviction. Hopefully this will see a clamp down on any further incidents of this nature as we approach the marching season.**

# Grand Lodge reaffirms opposition to parts of 'New Decade, New Approach'

At a specially convened meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland held in Co. Tyrone on Thursday, January 30, the Institution's governing body unanimously reaffirmed their opposition to key elements of the 'New Decade, New Approach' document.
More than 120 delegates representing every county in the Orange Order's jurisdiction attended to voice the views of their members.
There was much anger and frustration expressed at various aspects of the document and the process which led to its creation.
Grand Lodge recognises that many aspects of the agreement are for the common good, such as health, education, funding for infrastructure, as well as initiatives to help grow economic stability but believes these should be regarded as fundamental expectations of society and as such, should not have been brought into play as emotional bargaining chips in a political deal.
A spokesperson for the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland explained: "Of particular concern is the increasing normalisation of the Republic of Ireland Government's involvement in Northern Ireland politics. This was evidenced by the regular presence of Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney in negotiations dealing with what were clearly 'Strand One' issues relating exclusively to the internal affairs of Northern Ireland. This is against the agreed principles of the 1998 Belfast Agreement.
"The Orange Institution reiterates that it has no quarrel with those who have an affinity with the Irish language and wish to use it, nor has it ever sought to deny anyone the right to enjoy these traditions. It does, however, have real concerns about the weaponisation of the language as evidenced by the rhetoric and words of Irish Republicanism.
The spokesperson continued: "Our concerns remain unchanged surrounding the powers of the agreed Irish Language Commissioner and the resulting onus which will be placed on all public bodies to enhance and promote the Irish language. The lack of any indication as to the cost of such legislative provision is alarming and we fear that the already stark disparity in funding between Irish and other cultural traditions here will now expand even further.
"Any attempts to counter such potentially far-reaching Irish language legislation cannot realistically hope to be addressed with the appointment of a further commissioner who will deal with issues relating to Ulster-Scots/Ulster-British matters. The remit and scope of this post is much less clear, lacks community understanding and is devoid of any meaningful equivalence in terms of powers or remit."
Grand Lodge also has major concerns with the UK Government's commitment to introduce legislation in Westminster which would implement the legacy structures identified in the Stormont House Agreement. This is surprising and disappointing given the comprehensive rejection of these structures by those who represent the interests of innocent victims and service personnel and assurances that Legacy issues would not form part of this process.
The spokesman continued: "This deal and the many unresolved issues regarding Brexit will present Unionism with very real challenges. In the coming months, the Institution will seek clarity where there is ambiguity; oppose that which is a clear threat to the Union and challenge the use of the Irish Language as a blunt instrument to further a cultural war.
"The Institution is committed to further engagement with its members, political Unionism, Government representatives and wider society in order to further discuss issues of concern, monitor political progress and hold to account those who have made various commitments as part of the agreement. We will also work closely with fellow Unionists to maximise opportunities which strengthen Northern Ireland's place as an integral part of the United Kingdom."

# Letter to the editor

**Dear Editor,**
I write, concerning the recent death of Dawson Bailie, who was well known as a Past County Grand Master of Belfast.
However, I came to know him long before then.
Ever since joining UTV, in 1989, I have covered the Belfast Twelfth. In the early nineties, Dawson was in charge of the colour party, at the head of the Belfast parade.
As the clock ticked towards 10am, Dawson would ensure that the camera was filming, before calling



everyone to order, and walking up to Carlisle Circus for the beginning of the procession.
Dawson Bailie was also a member of LOL 1916, a special lodge established to perpetuate the memory of those who fought and died at the Somme.
My abiding memory is not of Dawson wearing an Orange Collarette and parading, but of him in his shirt sleeves, on his hands and knees, at the Orange Obelisk at the Somme, in the days when it was located just outside the gate of the Ulster Tower. He was cleaning the memorial in preparation for the commemoration on July 1.
That is surely the measure of the man.
**Yours sincerely,**
**Paul Clark.**

ORANGE NEWS

# Banbridge Orangemen set their sights on Kilimanjaro mountain challenge

A group of Orangemen have set their sights on an ambitious trip to Africa during which they will attempt to scale Mount Kilimanjaro.
The men from Banbridge District No 7 are tackling this mammoth challenge all in the name of charity – with two organisations set to benefit from their fundraising efforts. They are Angel Wishes and the Children's Cancer Unit at the Royal Victoria Hospital.
The Banbridge Brethren have a proud history of undertaking gruelling fundraising ventures, with this particular challenge requiring two years of groundwork.
Stuart Magill, Secretary of LOL No. 20 and Deputy District Master of Banbridge District LOL No. 7, is one of the Orangemen taking on the challenge.
He explained that the entire cost of the trip was being covered by the participants, to ensure that every penny raised would be going to the chosen charities.
"Initially, because of the expense, the distance and the sheer scale of the challenge we thought it might be difficult getting people to come on board," he said.
"As it turned out, there were so many people wanting to do it that we had to limit the number to 12."




Back, from left; Bros. Colin Adamson, Kenny McCahon, Robert McKee, Keith Hamilton, Neil Wills, Paul Wright and Stuart Magill. Front, from left; Bros. Richard Adamson and Alan English pictured in Banbridge Orange Hall. Picture: Graham Baalham-Curry

These Orangemen are familiar with charity challenges, having completed 'Drumming for Heroes' and a Great War 'Walk of Remembrance' amongst their most recent fundraisers.
Stuart continued: "Banbridge Orange Hall is renowned for its charity fundraising efforts. In the past 10 years different Orange Lodges, Royal Black Preceptories and groups from the hall have exceeded the quarter of a million mark, and currently are sitting at just over £280,000.
"This money has been donated to various charities that benefit all communities across Northern Ireland. A superb £167,000 alone came from LOL 423's Drumming for Heroes initiative.
"This time we have chosen to support two children's charities. There is not a town in Northern Ireland that is not affected by children's cancer and, sadly, that includes Banbridge."
The 'Team Kilimanjaro' Orangemen are from Banbridge, Tandragee, Dromore, Richhill and Warrenpoint, with an age range from 20s to 60s.
Stuart, who came up with this daunting challenge, is well aware of what ahead.
"We can prepare ourselves fitness and stamina-wise, but nothing can prepare us for the altitude. That will, undoubtedly, be the biggest challenge we face," he explained.
"We will be doing plenty of training outings in the Mournes."
The Brethren will be relying on their 'Orange bond' to get them through.
"The success rate of reaching the summit is 80-90%, and that's a big fear as altitude sickness can take its toll," Stuart said.
"We start off in the equator region where the temperature will be 30 degrees plus. At the top, there will be snow and temperatures of -20, so it's a real contrast.
"I'm hoping that the camaraderie among the group will keep us all going at any low points. We are all there to help, encourage and motivate each other."
Stuart is keen to have a second group join them on the hike up Kilimanjaro. If you would be interested in being part of this fantastic adventure you can contact Stuart on stumagill82@hotmail.com
If scaling Kilimanjaro might be slightly beyond your comfort zone but you'd like to support the Banbridge Brethren then have a Just Giving Page www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hiking-for-little-heroes




# 100th birthday celebrations

Wor. Bro. William Hamilton, of Ballynarrig Bible and Crown Defenders LOL 650, recently celebrated his 100th birthday with members of the Orange Institution.
The Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Most Wor. Bro. Edward Stevenson travelled along with members of Bro. Hamilton's own lodge to bring Orange birthday greetings.
Wor. Bro. Hamilton joined Ballynarrig Lodge in July 1937 and has served the Orange Institution for 82 years including serving a period of 74 years as lodge treasurer.
The Grand Master said he counted it as a particular honour to visit Bro. Hamilton on the special occasion of his 100th Birthday and brought with him greetings from the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland to Bro Hamilton.

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## ORANGE NEWS




**Lisnadill Guiding Star LOL 174 presentation of cheque for £1,400 to D.G.M. Rt. Wor. Bro. Harold Henning on December 11, 2019. The money was raised by holding an Orange Ball and other functions for The Drew Nelson Fund. Back row; David Black, Sec; Gareth Crozier; Matthew Crozier; Ian Crozier P.M; George McMahon P.M, Dist. Chap. Centre, George Emerson; Stephen McKinstry; Leslie Black, Tyler; James McClure; William Nesbitt Chaplain; Philip Dowzell, Treasurer, P.M. Front, Roy Pillow (LOL 540) W.D.M; Harold Henning, D.G.M; Alistair Menary W.M; Geoffrey Crozier D.M; and John Atkinson (LOL 345) D.D.M.**



**Alex McCauley, Lisnamulligan LOL 436, pictured on his 92nd birthday wearing his 70 year service medal which he received recently. He is pictured with his son Alexander and grandson Andrew, both members of Cumberland LOL 506, Mourne District. Alex joined the Institution in 1945 at the age of 17.**

# East Belfast Lodge gets milestone centenary celebrations underway

Witherow Memorial LOL 1337 held the first in a series of centenary commemorations which are due to take place over the next 18 months.

The lodge was issued its Warrant on November 12, 1920 and held its first meeting on December 12, 1920.

LOL 1337 held its annual installation of Officers meeting in the DUP group room in Belfast City Hall on Saturday, January 25, 2020.

The meeting began around 10am and saw the lodge initiate a new candidate, Martin McMillan. The Lecture team was made up of Ryan McDowell, Chris Cunningham, Cllr. Dean McCullough and Kirk McDowell (who also acted as Chaplain).

The Installation of Officers was conducted by the Deputy District Lecturer for No. 6 District (East Belfast) Chris Cunningham assisted in the Deputy Presiding Officer's Chair by Gary McAlees, District Inside Tyler, with Ross McVittie and Cllr. Dean McCullough assisting as Deacons.

The following Officers were installed: William Cochrane (Master), Billy Moore (Deputy Master), Kirk McDowell (Secretary), Harry Morrow (Assistant Secretary), Ryan McDowell (Treasurer and Lodge Lecturer), Robert Kemp (Foreman of Committee), Thomas Andrews, Neil Leslie and Jack Roulston (committee members) and Tommy Rodgers (Inside Tyler). The Chaplain was absent due to illness.

The Treasurer of LOL 1080, Roy McGaughey, being present and a long time friend of LOL 1337 was presented with his 50 year service jewel by the District Lecturer Ryan McDowell (pictured below right).

Before concluding the lodge held a minute's silence and reflection upon the 75th anniversary of VE Day and Holocaust Memorial Day.

The newly installed Deputy Master Billy Moore laid a wreath suitably inscribed for these two anniversaries at the cenotaph as members left the building (pictured below left). Prior to this one of the City Hall's guides gave the group an informative tour of the building imparting historical information about both the building and the city.

The lodge then retired to Castlereagh Glentoran Supporters Club for the afternoon to promote Ulster - Scots culture by observing Burns Day. This included a buffet with haggis and the saying of the Burns Grace.

Thanks go to Bro. and Cllr Adam Newton for hosting the lodge in its centenary.





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# Pension legislation signed

**From front page**

The Grand Lodge response also raised its disappointment that the Republic of Ireland Government has not co-operated in order to formulate a reciprocal scheme for those injured at the hands of terrorists in their jurisdiction.

In its conclusion, the Grand Lodge submission states: "There must be no equivalence between innocent injured victims and the terrorists who had premeditated intent to kill and maim and should therefore be described as victim makers."

A statement released to accompany the new legislation, said: "Following the recent consultation, the Secretary of State has introduced new rules for the scheme, so that the needs of those injured in the Troubles through no fault of their own receive the recognition that they deserve.

"The discussions and delay of the past few years have gone on long enough. The time has come to get this done and deliver for those people who will benefit most.

"The new Regulations will mean that from May, victims can apply for payments, and the system has been designed to support those seriously injured and traumatised in the Troubles."

The new scheme will mean:

• The payment can be transferred to a spouse, civil partner, cohabiting partner, registered carer or anyone who provided a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for ten years on death of the injured person.

• The date parameters for the scheme will be Jan 1966 - Apr 2010, but an independent Board will also have discretion to consider applications for incidents outside these dates which they consider it would be in line with the purpose of the scheme to include.

• Awards may only be adjusted for historic compensation where that historic compensation is higher than a threshold.

• Payments through the scheme will not impact income-related benefits or tax (including income tax, capital gains tax and inheritance ta).

• Anyone injured anywhere in the UK who meet the other eligibility criteria will be eligible for the scheme (regardless of residency).

And any UK citizen, or person of NI, injured in Europe will be eligible.

This new scheme and legislation being introduced today puts victims and their needs at the heart of Government's approach to dealing with the legacy of the Troubles.

The statement concludes: "We recognise that for those who engaged with the consultation this may have raised difficult issues. The Victims and Survivors Service provides a range of health and well-being services and if you feel this might be beneficial, you may wish to be aware of the details of their partner organisations and services:https://victimsservice.org/support-for-individuals/what-assistance-can-we-offer/"

Spokesman for Innocent Victims United Kenny Donaldson stated: "We cautiously welcome developments in respect of the Victims Payments Scheme which would provide a form of financial acknowledgement to those seriously injured, both physically and psychologically."

ORANGE NEWS

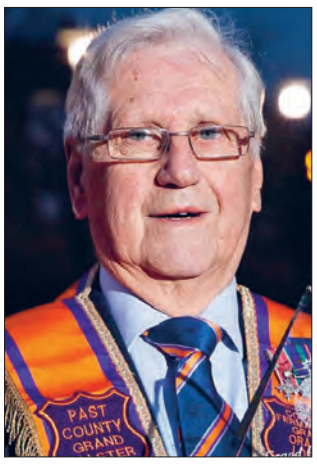
# Tributes paid to Rt. Wor. Bro. Roy Kells MBE

The Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Most Worshipful Brother Edward Stevenson led the tributes to Roy Kells MBE, who passed away on Sunday, February 9.

Mr Stevenson said it was with deep sadness that he had learned of Roy Kells' passing, adding that his loss would be keenly felt by all who knew him and throughout the membership of the Orange Institution.

"Roy Kells was held in high esteem by all who knew him and can best be described as one of life's true gentlemen," said Mr Stevenson.

"A life-long member of the Orange family, joining first in Portadown whilst serving his apprenticeship he quickly transferred to his home County of Fermanagh and joined the ranks of Fawney Heroes LOL 329, Lisnaskea."




Rt. Wor. Bro. Roy Kells MBE

Mr. Kells was Worshipful Master of LOL 329 from 1972 to 1974, Chaplain for 20 years and later District Chaplain of Lisnaskea No. 4 District. In 1994, he became Deputy County Grand Master and then in 1999 County Grand Master. During his time as County Grand Master he established the County's Annual Banner Mission and the County Grand Lodge Widows and Orphans committee, now the Widows and Welfare committee, supporting widows and orphans of deceased members throughout the year. He was also a member of Maguiresbridge Golden Star Royal Black Preceptory 1018.

He gave dedicated service not only to the Orange Institution, but also to the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) and, of course, the successful family business, SD Kells, established by his parents in 1928, which he helped expand and develop over many years, employing dozens of people across the province.

The Grand Master continued: "At the outbreak of the troubles, Roy joined the UDR. Here too he exhibited the characteristics required to be a leader of men, gaining a commission from The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. While holding the rank of Major, he commanded C Company, 4 UDR based in Lisnaskea through the darkest days of the ruthless terror campaign in South Fermanagh. He would go on to achieve the rank of Lieutenant Colonel – the highest rank achievable by a part time soldier in the British Army.

"It was most fitting that Roy should receive an MBE for his outstanding leadership and service.

"As a high profile UDR Officer and businessman Roy became a target for IRA terrorists. Over the years, his businesses were a frequent target for bombers and arsonists and direct attempts were made on his life. But Roy's strength of character, his proud Ulster background and quiet determination not to let terrorists dictate how he should live his life, or serve his community, saw him continue with his work.

"Many lesser men would have kept out of the public eye, but Roy was proud to serve the Orange Institution throughout these years - holding high profile positions locally and nationally and as a central figure in many other of the Institutions internal committees and initiatives.

"Roy's lifetime of commitment to Orangeism was publicly acknowledged at the 2018 Orange Community Awards when he was presented with the Institution's Lifetime Achievement Award. A fitting recognition for one whom so many have looked to and taken inspiration from.

"The Institution has indeed lost one of its most influential and most respected advocates and his loss will be keenly felt by his family and his Orange brethren throughout the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland."

The Officers and members of County Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge paid tribute to the late Mr. Kells.

"Roy was a dedicated servant to the Orange Institution, to his Private Lodge at Fawney in Lisnaskea District, to County Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge and to the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland. He displayed great leadership qualities and an ability to get things done. His membership of the Orange Institution was very special to him, it was real in his life and something he set his standards by," a spokesman on behalf of County Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge said.

The funeral service was held in Holy Trinity Parish Church in Lisnaskea on Tuesday, February 11.

# Criminal Justice Careers Fair proves popular

More than 200 people attended the Criminal Justice Careers Fair held in the Ballymena Showgrounds, organised by the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland as part of the Drew Nelson Legacy Project and the wider careers and employment strategy.

Youth Development Officer Gary McAllister worked with officers from the PSNI in organising the event, which brought together representatives of the PSNI, Youth Justice Agency, Public Prosecution Service, Attorney General's Office and Forensic Science NI.

This was the first event of its kind and the Co Antrim venue was chosen on the basis of significant loss of employment in the area in recent years.

The event also coincided with the launch of the latest recruitment campaign organised by the PSNI.

The event was a great success, despite a really bad few days of snow and gales, and Gary McAllister was encouraged by the response.

Mr McAllister said: "This event provided members of the community, young and old, with the chance to explore what potential career opportunities are available to them across the Criminal Justice Sector.




TUV leader Jim Allister; UUP's Robin Swann, Cllr Matthew Armstrong, TUV; Deputy Grand Master Harold Henning; PSNI Deputy Chief Constable Mark Hamilton; Grand Lodge Youth Development Officer Gary McAllister and Gordon McCrory, District Master Ballymena LOL No. 8



Youth Development Officer Gary McAllister with Deputy Grand Master Harold Henning; DUP's Paul Frew and Grand Orange of Ireland chief executive Iain Carlisle.



A full house in the Des Allen Suite at the Ballymena Showgrounds for the Criminal Justice Careers Fair.

"Our Institution is a vital stakeholder in addressing the issues facing our community. Issues such as the under-representation of working class Protestants throughout the justice sector and the brain drain of students moving abroad for university and not returning. Events such as this give those very students the chance to see that there are fantastic and appealing opportunities for them here in their own communities rather than having to move abroad to access them.

"The event was a huge success and wouldn't have been possible without the help of the PSNI, the various agencies who attended and Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

"I'd also like to express my personal thanks to TUV Cllr. Matthew Armstrong for his help in securing the venue from MEABC and promoting the event, his input and support was invaluable.

"I would also like to thank the PSNI and in particular, Superintendent Brenda Cairns for her efforts in securing the support of the various other agencies who attended the event."

He added: "Ultimately, this is an excellent example of agencies, stakeholders and the community working together for the good of our young people and I would hope that in future this success can be built upon and replicated."

Cllr. Armstrong was very pleased with the event, highlighting the efforts made by all involved to engage with those who attended.

"The Careers Fair was an excellent exercise in helping our young people forge their in way in the world," he said.

"The many exhibitors ranging from the PSNI, Attorney General and forensic science were all more than happy to provide encouragement and advice on possible career paths which was well received by all in attendance.

"It was also a vital demonstration that the Orange Institution has a real and practical presence all year round and that our culture positively permeates all aspects of modern society.

"Thanks must go to the agencies who contributed so positively including MEA Council for providing the venue. The credit ultimately, however, is with Grand Lodge, and in particular the Youth Development Officer, Gary McAllister, who co-ordinated the event so professionally and I hope to see many more such initiatives rolled out across our province in the near future."

## ORANGE NEWS

Tell us your story!

Please get in touch if you have a story for the Orange Standard – big or small we'd love to hear from you!

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# Cheque presentation at Portadown




Portadown District LOL No. 1 recently presented a cheque for £2,250 to the Pancreatic Cancer Charity.
Pictured, from left, are Wor. Bro. Darryl Hewitt, District Master; Ms. Andrea Kearns, Community Co-ordinator for Pancreatic Cancer Northern Ireland, and Bro. Nigel Mulholland, District Treasurer.

# Presentations at Duneaney Rising Sons of William



Duneaney Rising Sons of William LOL 1025 recently had their installation of officers. At the meeting, Cloughmills District 14 Worshipful Master Bro John Armstrong presented Bro William Hugh Adams PM with 50 year service jewel.



WDM John Armstrong presenting outgoing Duneaney WM Bro. Dale Ross with his Past Master's certificate and collarette.



Deputy District Master Bro. Nigel McKay presenting Bro. David Dickey with his 50 year service jewel.



Wor. Bro. Alan Burns (Foreman of District Committee), Bro. Adam Stevenson (Deputy Master LOL 339), Bro. Graeme Stevenson (Worshipful Master LOL 339) and Wor. Bro. Darryl Hewitt (Worshipful District Master).



Bro. Brian Murdoch (Past Master LOL 339) and Wor. Bro. Darryl Hewitt (WDM)

# New master and deputy for Corcrain Purple Rocket

The Installation of Officers of Corcrain Purple Rocket LOL 339 in Portadown District took place recently.
The Lodge was delighted to have brothers, Bro. Graeme and Bro. Adam Stevenson installed as Worshipful Master and Deputy Master respectively.
They are both fine young Orangemen who, like most of the lodge's younger members, are products of the Junior Lodge, Corcrain JLOL 120. In fact both are current Superintendents. This goes to show the value of the Junior movement as it has been instrumental in recent years in swelling Lodge numbers to 64 and giving the Lodge a much younger membership.
The Installation was conducted by Portadown Worshipful District Master Bro. Darryl Hewitt and Foreman of District Committee Bro. Alan Burns.
They both congratulated the newly installed Officers and said it was tremendous to see a Lodge with such young members taking office.
The WDM also presented a Past Master's Jewel and Certificate to the immediate Past Master Bro. Brian Murdoch, another product of the Junior Lodge and the first of the 'new generation' to take office.
Bro. Murdoch was congratulated by all the Brethren for an excellent two years in the chair.

ORANGE NEWS

# Focus on the Ely Centre

**Director Lee McDowell gives Orange Standard readers an update on the work of the Ely Centre.**




**Ely Centre staff, from left; Ben Higgins, Ivan Bingham, Lee McDowell (Director), Christine Spence, David Taylor and Danny Kennedy.**

The Ely Centre is a Registered Charity (NIC 101144) specialising in the provision of Health and Well Being and Welfare support services for civilians, security force personnel and their families. We support those have experienced bereavement and physical/psychological injury as a result of the "Troubles" and in more recent theatres of conflict (Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia). Formed by relatives of the bereaved and injured of 1987 Enniskillen Poppy Day Bomb they sought to reach out and offer help to others who were suffering as a result of the Troubles. From small beginnings to now over three decades later the charity has developed into a proven centre of excellence in providing care and support for victims/survivors of the troubles and in more recent years veterans of HM Forces, the security services, and their families.

The organisation currently has outreach centres for victims of the troubles based in Enniskillen and Markethill, and in 2018 opened Brooke House, a Health and Well Being Centre for Veterans of HM Forces and RUC officers injured in the line duty on the estate of Viscount Brookeborough.

In 2019 the Ely Centre supported over 1,300 individuals through our range of well-being and welfare programmes, including Talking Therapies, Complementary and Physiotherapy, Welfare and benefit advice and social support programmes.

In September 2019 the Ely Centre opened its outreach centre in Markethill, Co Armagh, with a specific desire to complement current statutory and voluntary provision within the area through the provision of health and well-being and welfare advice services. Based in the town centre, we offer a drop in service for anyone who needs helps. We would encourage any members of the Loyal Orders to contact us, and if individual lodges would benefit from an information evening or welfare/health clinic please contact us to arrange.

As we approach the introduction of the Troubles' Disabled Payment Scheme in the coming months, we would encourage you to contact us to ensure that you, or a loved one who has been physically or psychologically injured during the troubles received the support that you are entitled too.

If you would like to discuss this or any of the services we offer, or to refer in please call in to one of our offices, drop us a line or refer through our website, www.elycentre.com. Also please keep updated on the range of events we offer through our Facebook page.

The Ely Centre is currently fundraising for a permanent memorial to the victims of Enniskillen bomb. To date we have collected over £30k towards our target of £38k.

We will be launching a new memorial campaign in Co. Armagh over the coming weeks.

## Jamison's True Blues



**Jamison's True Blues installation meeting. W.M W. Bro. T.W. Gray, D.M. Bro. D.J. Gray with Imperial, Grand, County and District Lodge Officers and LOL 532 lodge officers.**

## Aughafatten LOL 1184



**Aughafatten LOL 1184 with County and District Lodge officers at their installation night in The Braid District No.18 County Antrim**



**Wor Bro. Mark Moore pictured with Mrs Mary Hamilton**



**Grand Master Edward Stevenson pictured with Brethren and guests at Cumber Claudy.**

# Mark is new District Master at Cumber Claudy

Bro. Mark Moore has been newly installed as the new Worshipful District Master of Cumber Claudy District No. 2. Bro Ivan Montgomery was also installed as Deputy District Master at the meeting in Cumber Claudy Orange Hall on Friday, January 24.

The Grand Master Most Worshipful Bro Edward Stevenson, the City Grand Master of Londonderry Right Worshipful Bro Donald Eakin and The Deputy City Grand Master Bro George Hunter were in attendance.

After the meeting a plaque was unveiled by Mrs Mary Hamilton and dedicated by District Chaplin Bro. Rev Mervin Lyndsey to commemorate the soldiers from Cumber Claudy and District who gave their lives in the Great War.

Following the formal proceedings of speeches and toasts, refreshments and a dance took place at the nearby Beaufort Hotel.

Bro. Moore is a member of Kildoag LOL 1164.

Speaking after the installation he said: "I believe I am one of the youngest members of the Orange to take up the District Master position having already been Deputy District Master for three years. A few years ago I had the brilliant opportunity of taking part in The STRIPE Project. The experience and knowledge I have gained from that has helped and encouraged me to take up this role as I believe I can put a lot more input into it.".

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DREW NELSON LEGACY

# Future Leaders hold community events

Three of the participants in the Future Leaders Initiative have held events in recent weeks.

Ross Hall organised an evening in Brownlow House entitled 'Shining a Light on the Black Institution' while Ellis Hanna put the spotlight on the bands scene with 'Marching On' held in Clifton Street Orange Hall. This saw performances from Ballygowan Pipe Band, Inch Flute Band and Dunloy Accordion.

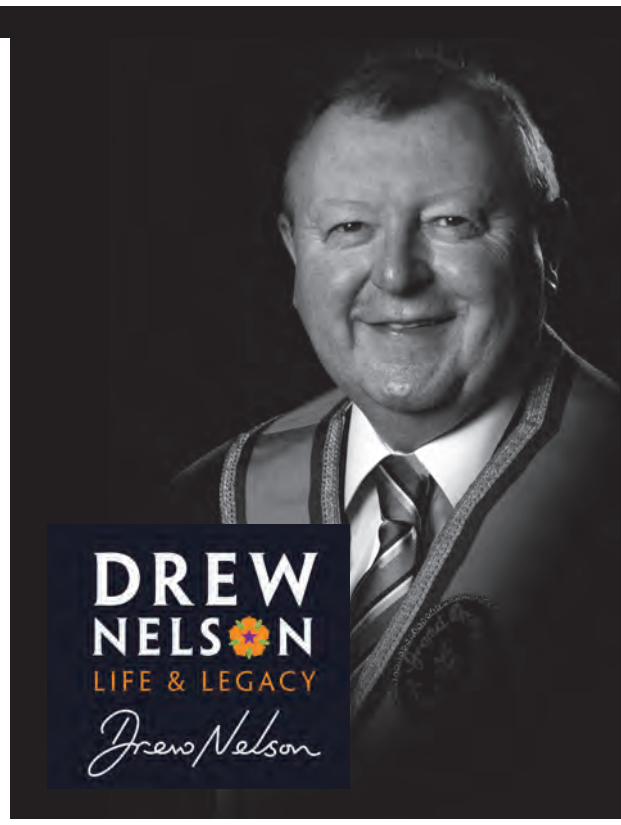
Chris Reid hosted a conference for young people dealing with their views on the Orange Institution.

Reflecting on the success of the events, Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Youth Development Officer Gary McAllister said: "The Future Leaders Initiative was about giving our young people the confidence and encouragement to go back in to their communities and deliver an event or initiative which addressed a need within their community.

"I'm delighted that Ellis, Ross and Christopher have been able to deliver these events and am overwhelmed by the support shown to them by their communities, which proves that our Institution is fully supportive of our young people taking on forms of leadership within their community and within our Institution."

Gary concluded: "I'd like to commend Ellis, Ross and Christopher for the hard work and dedication they have shown in delivering these events and I look forward to seeing them grow and develop further during the programme."









Chris Reid pictured with Norman Shannon, Worshipful District Master, Magherafelt District, and John Whyte, Deputy District Master, at the conference in Magherafelt Orange Hall.

# Shining a Light on the Royal Black Institution



"Shining a Light on the Black Institution" was an informative evening at Brownlow House, Lurgan, which involved thought-provoking talks from three guest speakers: Rev William Anderson, Sovereign Grand Master; Rev Nigel Reid, Imperial Grand Chaplain, and Dr Jonathan Mattison, curator of the museum of Orange Heritage. The three speakers are pictured above with Grand Orange Lodge Youth Development Officer Gary McAllister and event organiser Ross Hall.




Marching On event organiser Ellis Hanna pictured with Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Youth Development Officer Gary McAllister.



Clifton Street Orange Hall was busy for the Marching On event.

# Marching On at Clifton Street Orange Hall



Representatives of the Association of Loyal Orange Women of Ireland.



ORANGE NEWS

# Installation of Officers in Castlewellan District

At a recent meeting of Castlewellan District LOL No 12 held in Newcastle Orange Hall, the Installation and Re–Installation of District Officers took place for 2020.
Rt. W. Bro. Sam Walker, C.G.M. of Down assisted by the W. Bro. Kyle McIlwrath, D.C.G.M. installed a new DDM, Bro. James McIntosh and Communications Officer, Bro. Gilbert Cromie. Bro Kenny Cromie stood in as WDM for Bro Victor Morrow, who was absent. All the other District Officers were re-installed.
Following the installation the County Grand Master and visiting distinguished Brethren expressed their congratulations to all the Brethren and wished them a good year in office.



Front row sitting, from left: Bro. Rev. George Speers, Chaplain, Bro. Kenny Cromie, WDM acting, Rt Bro. Sam Walker, CGM, Bro. James McIntosh, DDM, Bro. Kyle McIlwrath, DCGM, Bro. Gordon Imrie, Dist Lecturer. Missing from the photo are Bro. Victor Morrow, WDM, Bro. Bro Charles McNeill and Bro. David Scott, Dist. Treasurer. Back rows: Visiting and distinguished Brethren.

The large attendance then enjoyed a superb supper served by the Brethren of LOL 357 and the evening closed with a vote of thanks.

# Ardarragh LOL 765




Pictured are the past Masters of Ardarragh LOL 765 in front of the new Past Masters plaque which was unveiled and dedicated. From left, Bros Jim Waddell, Joseph Waddell, Maurice Grafton, David Weir, Robert Waddell, Keith Weir. Back, from left; Bros Richard Waddell, Alexander Waddell, Brian Hilland, David Megaw, Richard Smyth, Jonathan Waddell and Geoffrey Waddell.




Pictured are the members of Ardarragh LOL 765 Rathfriland District after being presented with long service jewels. From left; Bro. Harold Baxter, District Chaplain Rathfriland; Bros Joseph Waddell, 50 years; David Weir, 60 years; Maurice Grafton, 50 years; and Bro Mark Graham, DDM Rathfriland. Pictures: Billy Maxwell

# Bibles presented in Gilford



Bibles were presented to members of Gilford District LOL 13 after the recent district meeting held in Gilford Orange Hall on January 20. The Bibles were presented by CGM Bro Walker and County Sec. Bro. Fleming. Back row, Mark Sargent, County Sec. Richard Fleming, CGM Sam Walker, and Paul Jackson. Front from left; Howard Pollock, William Robinson, Reggie McIlroy, Eric Hogen, Roy Lecky, Garnet Chambers, Winston Sargent receiving on behalf of Tom Sargent.



Three generations of Sargents who are all members of Gilford District. Back row, Ian Sargent and Mark Sargent. Front row; Geoffery Sargent and Winston Sargent.

# Lower Iveagh District LOL No 1 Installation of Officers



Pictured are the officers of Lower Iveagh District LOL No 1 after their installation in Carnew Orange Hall. Pictured from left seated Bros Kyle McIlwrath, Deputy County Master Samuel Walker, County Master John Wilkinson, WDM; Gavin Beck DDM, Robert Murphy, District Chaplain; and Jonathan McKnight, District Treasurer. Stranding from Left; Bros Frank Wallace, District Secretary; Mervyn Kernaghan, District Lecturer; Ronnie Murdock, assisant Secretary; Alan Jess, District Lecturer; Geoffrey Bradford, District Standard Bearer; and Rev Victor Neill, District Chaplain.



Pictured is Past District Master Lower Iveagh District No1 Bro. Ian Ward after receiving his past Master's Collarette from County Master Bro. Samuel Walker as Deputy County Master Bro. Kyle McIlwrath looks on. Pictures: Billy Maxwell

ORANGE NEWS

# 50 year jewel at Summerisland



Bro. Robert Graham pictured receiving his 50 year jewel and certificate. Robert is a member of Summerisland LOL 66.


Parade Steward Training

Section 3 of the Public Processions (N.I.) Act 1998, Code of Conduct, gives guidance to Parade organisers, in that it states, a Chief Steward and a number of Trained Stewards must be appointed to Marshall that parade.

I offer Parade Steward Training with approval from Grand Orange Lodge Of Ireland

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Installation of Officers - Boyd Memorial LOL 312. Pictured are newly installed officers, district and visiting Brethren.

# Installation and presentation at Boyd



Bro. William Murphy being presented with his 50 year membership Jewel by Wor. Bro. William Thompson, Wor. District Master of Sixmilewater District LOL No.10.



Bro. William Murphy with Wor. Master of Boyd Memorial LOL 312, Wor. Bro. Michael Speirs.

# Charity presentation at Mountjoy

Mountjoy Orange Lodge held a charity presentation and family fun night instead of their normal monthly meeting on the evening of Thursday, December 5, 2019 in Mountjoy Orange Hall.

The lodge had the Air Ambulance Northern Ireland as it's nominated charity for 2019, which had significant poignancy to the lodge as the Worshipful Master of the lodge, Wor. Bro. Stanley Wilson had cause to use the services of the Air Ambulance following an incident on his farm.

Wor. Bro. Wilson had suffered serious injuries as a result of an attack by a bull. Wor. Bro. Wilson could not speak highly enough of the quality of the service and he extended his personal thanks to the Dr and Paramedic and the care he received before he reached hospital.




Pictured presenting the cheque to Mr Raymond McKinley representing the Air Ambulane NI are Wor. Master Bro. Stanley Wilson and Bro. Nial Colhoun, Treasurer.

The lodge raised an excellent £2,800 through a few events held during the year and Mr Raymond McKinley, from Gillygooley, received the donation on behalf of the Air Ambulance Charity. He gave a synopsis of the workings and significant costs involved in running the Air Ambulance service and where we might be without the service and from this aspect. He was speaking from a very personal perspective.

Following the charity presentation, Santa made an appearance bringing much excitement to the younger children and some of the older. Supper was served and an excellent night enjoyed by all.

ORANGE NEWS



# Installations in Co Antrim

Installation of Officers - Ballylurgan True Blues LOL 556.



Installation of Officers - Braid District LOL No.18



The Larne District L.O.L. No.1 County Antrim Installation of Officers was held in Raloo Presbyterian Church Halls. Installed as W.D.M. for a second year was Wor. Bro. Roy Beggs Jun. and Bro. Iain Ross as Deputy District Master. Other District Officers Installed included Bro. David Craig Sen. District Secretary, Bro. Rev. Paul Reid District Chaplin, Bro. David Boyd District Lay Chaplin, Bro. Kenneth Johnston District Treasurer, Bros. Robert McAuley and Jimmy Davey District Lecturers. The Installation was presided over by County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge Officers Wor. Bro. William Thompson, County Grand Secretary and Wor. Bro. Alex McClintock County Grand Lecturer.



Sixmilewater District L.O.L. No.10 held their Installation of Officers for 2020 on Thursday, January 16, in Burnside Orange Hall, Antrim. Worshipful Brother William Thompson was Installed as Worshipful District Master and Brother Colin Scott as Deputy District Master. Pictured are the newly Installed District Officers with visiting County Officers as follows; Back row from left; Bro. William John Strange (Past District Master), Bro. Samuel Millar (Braid District LOL No 18), Bro. Brian Graham (District Secretary) and Bro. Aaron Hunter (District Treasurer). Front Row from left; Bro. Rev. David Bisset (District Chaplin), Right Worshipful Brother Robin Matthews (County Grand Master, County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge), Worshipful Brother William Thompson (Worshipful District Master), Brother Alex McClintock (County Lecturer, County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge) and Brother Colin Scott (Deputy District Master).

# Tribute to late Bro. Billy Williamson unveiled by Gwynn's Temperance



Bros. Walter Young, Lee Stewart, Colin Stewart and Ken Williamson.

At the annual Installation of Officers of Gwynn's Temperance L.O.L 419, Antrim, the outgoing W.M., Bro. Brian Creighton unveiled a tribute to the late Bro. Billy Williamson. Bro. Creighton paid tribute to Bro. Williamson's service in and dedication to the Orange Institution, and this was echoed by others including his brother, Bro. Ken Williamson and grandson, Bro Colin Stewart.

When he passed away on 22 February 2019, Bro. William John (Billy) Williamson had been a member of the Orange Institution for over 73 years. He joined Dungonnell Flute band in 1945 and paraded with the Band that year on the 12th July – the first of a remarkable unbroken 74 years parading on the 12th!

Billy joined Murray's Rising Sons Jubilee Junior L.O.L. in 1946, progressing to Dungonnell L.O.L. 546 in 1953. He transferred to Gwynn's Temperance L.O.L. 419 in 1958 and shortly after was elected as Lodge Secretary, a post he held for five years before becoming Worshipful Master in 1967. Bro. Williamson became Worshipful District Master of Antrim District No. 13 in 1978 and served in that post until 1983. However, it was his skill as a Lecturer that made him so well known in Antrim District and beyond. He was District Lecturer for over 40 years and was instrumental in setting up lecture classes in Antrim Protestant Hall which he continued to run until his untimely passing last year. His dedication to lecturing was legendary and ensured a constant supply of lecturers for both the Orange Lodges and Royal Arch Purple Chapters within Antrim District. Lecturing was a skill very close to



The late Bro. Billy Williamson

Billy's heart and he sought to keep the tradition alive throughout Co. Antrim. He was always on hand, often accompanied by his brother Ken, to deliver lectures to Lodges and Chapters in neighbouring Districts and further afield.

In the Royal Black Institution Billy stood down as Registrar of Olive Branch RBP 512 in 2017 having served in this post for 30 years. He had previously been WM for 18 years immediately after an earlier term as Registrar - he held senior office in the Preceptory for almost 60 years, as well as being a qualified Royal Black Lecturer. He had also served for as District Master of Antrim Royal Black District Chapter No. 3 for a number of years.

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ORANGE NEWS

# Ladies present cheques to charities




Bro. Perry Reid, Co Tyrone Grand Master, receiving a cheque for £1,000 for the Australian Bushfire Disaster Fund from Sister Gillian McIntyre, Assistant Deputy Grand Secretary.




Sister Paula Taylor, Secretary JOWAI receiving a cheque for £500 for the Junior Orange Women's Association of Ireland from Sister Anna Moffitt, Grand Secretary.




Bro. Stuart Brooker, Assistant Grand Master, receiving a cheque for £1,000 for the Sir George Clarke Bursary Fund from Sister Joan Beggs, Grand Mistress.

On Saturday, February 8, the Grand Lodge of the Association of Loyal Orangewoman of Ireland met in Co Tyrone. Before the meeting in Moygashel Orange Hall, the annual presentation of charity cheques took place. The representatives who were there to receive the cheques all told those present a bit about their respective charities.
Jordana, from the Cancer Fund for Children, gave a short power point display as Sisters were interested particularly in the work of Daisy Lodge. This was the first time supporting them as a Grand Lodge. The total handed over on the day was £5,300 and this was on top of whatever monies had been already raised in 2019 by the private ladies lodges throughout Ireland.



Representatives from Air Ambulance receiving a cheque for £1,000 from Sister Betty Brown, DGMI.




Bro. Stuart Brooker, Assistant Grand Master, receiving a cheque for £1,000 for the Drew Nelson Legacy Project from Sister Beth Lunney, Co Down Grand Mistress.




Jordana from Cancer Fund for Children receiving a cheque for £500 from Sister May Dickson, DGMI towards their work in Daisy Lodge.




Bro. Perry Reid, Co Tyrone Grand Master, receiving a cheque for £300 for the Lord Enniskillen Memorial Orange Society from Sister Elizabeth Watson, DGMI.



# Presentation for Walter!

Bro. Walter Keating was given a presentation after having served an amazing 54 years as the Worshipful Master of Druminan Rising Sons of William LOL No. 193.

Pictured are the incoming Officers for 2020.
Worshipful Master Mervyn Carleton; Past Master Walter Keating; Deputy Master Andrew Keating; Chaplain George Berry; Treasurer Roy Hanna; Secretary Stanley Carleton and Tyler David Keating.
Pictured in the centre was a guest on the evening, Robert Dickson, PDM Holywood District Lodge No. 14.




# Education project in Kilkeel

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Educational Affairs Working Group have been involved for some time on the issue of educational underachievement within certain demographics of the Protestant community.
An area they have been looking at to help raise attainment levels has been Out of School Educational Projects.
Jonny Stevenson, Convenor of the GOLI Working Group on Education, said: "We are delighted to be funding and delivering the Kilkeel Educational Project in conjunction with Mourne District LOL 6, our delivery partners The Schomberg Society and with input from Kilkeel High School.
"The Project is in essence a Pilot Project and takes the form of weekly GCSE Numeracy and Literacy tutorials, delivered by professionally qualified tutors complimented by several sessions on employability skills and 'Understanding Ourselves'."
He added: "We look forward to the completion of phase one of the project and are confident of the benefit of this to the young people involved and to the community as a whole."



Lisnaskea District Secretary Wor. Bro. Neville McElwaine pictured with award winners Bro. Stanley Keys and Bro. Alan Graham



Bro. Trevor Watson receives his award from Fermanagh County Secretary Wor. Bro. Alan Elliott.



Bro Alan Lunny LOL 895, Lisnaskea No. 4 District; Bro Robert Graham, Magheraboy No. 11 District; Bro Wilson Keith, WDM Lisnaskea No. 4 District, pictured with County Grand Master Paul Stevenson.



Trevor Irvine, Wor. Master of Drumharvey LOL 159 receives the award for membership increase from Bro Nigel Abraham (County Grand Lecturer) sponsored by Abraham Transport.

# Co Fermanagh Awards night

**The outstanding work of members of the Orange Institution in Co Fermanagh has been recognised, as the county once again hosted its annual awards night.**

Enniskillen hall was the venue for the event, which saw Orangemen, women and juniors recognised for their endeavours over the past 12 months.
Charity fundraising, community outreach and lodge activities were among the initiatives to receive acknowledgement.
Speaking at the event, County Grand Master of Fermanagh, Rt. Wor. Bro. Paul Stevenson said: "As we look back over the last 12 months, it gives us a chance to recognise those within our membership who work behind the scenes, never asking for any thanks or reward.
"Although we have only one winner in each category, everyone is a winner in their own right and we thank them for the work they do and congratulate all who have been nominated tonight.
"I would like to thank all those who have sponsored the categories and everyone who has worked to make this a successful event. Finally may I wish everyone within County Fermanagh Orange Lodge continued success in 2020."

Award winners on the night were as follows:

Award sponsored by Ulster Unionist Party - Oldest Orangeman on parade: Bro Wilson Wadsworth (88 years of age).





Above: Ballindarragh Accordion Band received the award for most Orange membership. Pictures: Trevor Watson.

Above right: Bro James Moore receives his award for the youngest Junior on parade from Enniskillen District Master Geoff Woods.






Above: Past County Grand Master Wor. Bro. Stuart Brooker pictured with award winners Bro. Rhys McMullan and Bro. James Brown.

Left: Grand Master Wor. Bro. Edward Stevenson accepts a cheque for the Drew Nelson Project from County Grand Mistress Anna Moffet and Deputy Co. Grand Master Mervyn Byers.



Sister Evelyn Alexandra pictured with Worshipful District Mistress Betty Chambers. Looking on are WM Jenny Crawford and Sec. Viola Doorish, of Florence Court Star of Victory WLOL 176.



Bro. Wilson Wadsworth pictured receiving his award from Ulster Unionist MLA Rosemary Barton

Award sponsored by Enniskillen District Loyal Orange Lodge - Youngest Junior Orangeman on parade: Bro James Moore.

Award sponsored by the Democratic Unionist Party Oldest Junior Orangeman on parade: Bro. Calum Smith.

Award sponsored by Grave Image - Youngest Orangeman on parade: Rhys McMullan.

Award sponsored by G.M.Architecture - The Band with the greatest percentage of Orange membership in it's ranks in Lisnaskea on the Twelfth 2019: Ballindarragh Accordion Band (55% membership).

Award sponsored by Abraham Transport - Lodge with greatest increase in new members in 2019: Winning Lodge: Drumharvey LOL 159 (Five new members in 2019).

Award sponsored by E.J.Stevenson and Sons - Lodge with the greatest percentage increase in new membership in 2019: Aughrim LOL 334 (increase of 20%).

Award sponsored by McElwaine Technical/McElwaine Security - Orangeman who has made an input into the life of his Private Lodge: Wors. Bro, Alan Graham LOL 443.

Award sponsored by G.R.White & Son Ltd - Orangeman who has contributed to voluntary work in the community: Bro Trevor Watson LOL 450.

Award sponsored by Traditional Unionist Voice - Best 2019 Twelfth photograph in County Fermanagh: Bro. Barrett Rennick (Picture – Ballindarragh Accordion Band celebrating 60th anniversary on return to Hall after Twelfth demonstration).

Award sponsored by County Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge - Private or District Lodge that has raised the most money, per head, for charity during the year: Maguiresbridge District LOL 14.

County Grand Master's Presentation
Noel Downey(Fermanagh Band Scene) In Recognition of the work and time Noel has given to the Bands and Loyal Institutions here in County Fermanagh, recording and posting our Culture on Social Media.

County Grand Mistress's Presentation
Hilltown Guiding Star WLOL 228.

Charity Donations for 2019 included:
Scripture Union; Ulster Defence Regiment CGC Benevolent Fund; Air Ambulance Northern Ireland; Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Benevolent Fund; Drew Nelson Life and Legacy Project; Bible Society; Australian Fire Disaster Appeal; Shoe Box Christmas Gifts Appeal; Madagascar Missionary Trip; and Real Life Christian Book Shop.

Banners:
Newtownbutler LOL No. 184 - Dedicated a new Banner
Belle Isle True Blues LOL No. 1314 - Dedicated a new Banner.

Presentation of Certificates:
Sister Dora Douglas (70 years+); Sister Evelyn Alexandra (70 years+)
Brother Wilson Wadsworth (50 years+) Brother William Little (50 years+); Brother Robert Graham (50 years+); Brother William McCullagh (50 years+).

# MOTOR MOUTH

with Graham Baalham-Curry



**Whatever your preference, here's an SUV that can be as individual as you are!**

# Jaguar's E-Pace has bags of style

Named the E-Pace, you would be forgiven for thinking that this Jaguar SUV is powered by electricity, it is however powered by fossil fuel and starts from £29,080.

The E-Pace places its emphasis firmly on the modern luxury. Whatever your style, a wide range of colour choices and premium materials let you create a car that's every bit as individual as you are.

With three trim levels on offer from Jaguar, choosing your vehicle could not be more simple and with a plethora of spec and tech on board as standard, the E-Pace is sure to provide everything you need for modern day motoring.

Starting simply with 'E-Pace', you get automatic LED headlights, twin exhaust tailpipes, heated door mirrors, automatic windscreen wipers, boot spoiler, heated windscreen and heated washer jets. 17-inch 10 spoke alloy wheels come as standard.

Inside features heated front seats and a leather steering wheel, dual climate control, centre console with armrest and analogue dials with central TFT display. A 10-inch infotainment hub dominates the dash and offers Bluetooth connectivity, voice control, dynamic volume control and DAB radio.

Driver assistance is plentiful with hill launch assist, JaguarDrive control, dynamic stability control, cruise control, driver condition monitor, lane keep assist along with front and rear parking aids with rear camera.





An 'R-Dynamic' model starts from £30,470 and adds satin chrome body details as well as body coloured door cladding and front fog lights with R-Dynamic badges both inside and outside of the vehicle and on automatic models gearshift paddles.

Finally and from £40,050, the 'E-Pace Chequered Flag' adds signature daytime running lights, electric open close tailgate, fixed panoramic roof, keyless entry and black exterior pack along with Chequered Flag badges. 19-inch 5 spoke satin dark grey alloy wheels feature on this model whilst inside is treated to an interactive driver display, connect pro pack and smartphone pack.

10-way electric front seats and pro services with Wi-Fi hotspot finish off the interior. Driver assistance includes all surface progress control, torque vectoring by braking and low traction launch along with traffic sign recognition and adaptive speed limiter.

When it comes to choosing your engine there is quite a bit more choice, depending on trim level, you can opt for a 2 litre 4-cylinder 150PS turbocharged diesel mated to a manual gearbox and front-wheel-drive or all-wheel-drive, with an automatic all-wheel-drive being an option.



Next up is the same diesel, this time with 180PS and with all-wheel-drive only, can be chosen with either an automatic or manual gearbox. Finally, a 240PS diesel engine is available for those who like a bit of power but wish to retain a frugal set up, this engine is paired to an all-wheel-drive automatic drive-train.

A nice selection of well-powered turbocharged petrol engines are available, all of which are 2 litre 4-cylinder and mated to an all-wheel-drive automatic drive-train and start with 200PS with an attractive looking 250PS version being available, whilst the range topping engine offers 300PS.

The model tested pictured thanks to Donnelly Group is an R-Dynamic 'S' which means it features an accessory pack on top of the basic dynamic spec, allowing 18-inch alloy wheels and some minor styling changes.

Finished in Caesium Blue, this E-Pace most certainly looks the part and I feel that its rich vibrant colour is perhaps the only one to choose when ordering.

A black pack of lifeshine warranty sit nicely alongside rear privacy glass and a fixed panoramic roof option.

Inside this model tested is a choice you will either love or hate. For me, it's a choice I adore, that choice being the Windsor Leather Eclipse upholstery which is wrapped around multi-way heated electric memory front seats and heated rear seating.

The E-Pace is a great alternative to the likes of the more expensive Range Rover Evoque or the Mercedes-Benz GLA which is a little more affordable, on paper at least.

Priced with all its options in the region of £44,000, the model tested provided comfort and a great all-round driving experience, for something more spacious you can always up for the larger Jaguar F-Pace and for a better driving experience, there is always the Jaguar I-Pace, the latter of which I will write about in the coming days.

Fact File for model tested:
Make: Jaguar
Model: E-Pace
Trim: R-Dynamic S
Engine: 2.0 turbocharged diesel
Gearbox: 8-speed automatic
Cost Circa: £44,000.

# Arlene's recipes

## Potato and cheese fritters

Here in Northern Ireland we know a thing or two about our spuds!
Chips or champ, steamed or baked - we can't get enough of them and if there are any leftover you can rustle up these tasty fritters. Boasting a winning flavour combo of potato, cheese and onion: they will be everyones favourite any day of the week!

Serves 4
6-8 medium sized cooked potatoes, skin left on, lightly crushed
1x red onion, chopped
50g grated mature cheddar
1 egg
25g plain flour
Salt and pepper
1 tbsp fresh chopped parsley
Vegetable oil

1. Place the potatoes, cheese and chopped red onion into a medium sized mixing bowl.
2. Add the eggs and mix well.
3. Add the flour and seasoning and fold into the mixture, keeping it lumpy and bumpy.
4. Finally add the chopped parsley.
5. Heat a large pan and add enough vegetable oil to just cover the base of the pan. Place heaped tablespoonfuls of the potato mixture into the very hot oil, being careful as it may splatter, and cook each fritter for two minutes on each side until golden and crispy, drain onto kitchen paper.
6. Delicious served with fresh salsa, sour cream and chives or good old tomato ketchup.

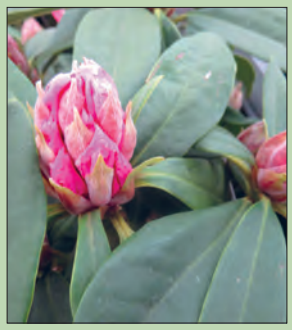
COOKS TIPS: For a tasty twist, add 2-3 chopped spring onions instead of red onion, or add one teaspoon curry powder to the mixture for extra flavour. Try making the fritters from other leftover vegetables and choose from sweet potato, carrot, parsnip or broccoli.





## Gardener's Corner
by Beth Lunney

March 20th this year marks the Spring or Vernal Equinox. This marks the changing of the seasons from winter to spring. On this day, night and day are of equal lengths and the sun will rise exactly in the east and set exactly in the west. The Northern Hemisphere starts to tilt towards the sun and we have the promise of longer, warmer days and shorter nights.
Our Rhododendron 'Christmas Cheer' are just starting to break bud. This Rhododendron is classed as a 'Compact Hybrid' these plants grow to approximately 4ft to 5ft and bridge the gap between 'Dwarf Rhododendrons' and the bigger growing 'Hardy Hybrids'. 'Christmas Cheer' is one of the earliest of this group of Rhododendrons to flower. In February the buds start to swell opening in March to reveal lipstick-pink flower buds which progress to beautiful trusses of blush-pink flowers which fade to white as the flowers mature. This evergreen shrub has dark green rounded foliage which shows off the flowers well and is easy to grow. Like all Rhododendrons it requires moist, fertile and well drained acid soil in full sun or partial shade and with shelter from cold winds. 'Christmas Cheer' will perform well in a good size pot or planter. Although 'Christmas Cheer' does not flower at Christmas in days gone by it would have been brought into glass houses and forced into flower so it could be used as a wonderful table decoration at Christmas.
Another beautiful early spring flowering plant is Corylopsis pauciflora whose common name is 'Winter Hazel' or 'Buttercup Witch Hazel' and is a native of Japan and Taiwan. This tough, dense, medium sized shrub or small tree will grow slowly to approximately 5ft with a 6ft to 8ft spread and is deciduous. The stems are very fine and in late winter, before the leaves start to emerge, beautiful clusters of bell-shaped, drooping, primrose yellow flowers appear which are sweetly scented. The flowers are usually around a half inch long. After flowering, the leaves, which are hazel-like, start to appear and are green with a touch of bronze, maturing to bright green then turning golden yellow in autumn. To appreciate the perfume of the flowers of the Corylopsis plant close to a pathway in a sheltered position. This fully hardy plant should be planted in fertile, moist but well drained, acid soil and in partial shade. To create a beautiful, early spring display under plant with winter-flowering heathers, snowdrops or hellebores.
March can be a busy month in the garden with many jobs to get around to. Prune back bush roses hard – to about 1ft above ground level. Now is the time to lift and divide summer flowering perennials. Ornamental grasses, which may have looked good through winter, can be cut back to ground level now. Onions, shallots and 1st early potatoes can now be planted and many varieties of seeds can be sown.



Christmas Cheer

## Wordsearch

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | R | E | W | O | L | F | A | Q | W | B | D |
| P | E | S | R | T | Y | C | U | B | I | L | A |
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| I | G | I | H | J | E | I | S | R | J | S | F |
| N | K | L | U | A | S | C | I | D | S | S | O |
| G | C | U | V | B | T | K | A | S | N | O | D |
| M | O | T | H | E | R | S | D | A | Y | M | I |
| A | G | R | A | S | S | E | E | D | S | N | L |
| R | A | I | N | B | O | W | I | N | D | Y | S |
| C | Q | W | E | L | R | T | Y | U | I | O | P |
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|---|---|---|---|
| SPRING | MOTHERS DAY | GRASS | NEST |
| MARCH | TULIPS | DAFFODILS | PICNIC |
| LAMB | RAINBOW | GARDEN | BIRDS |
| FLOWERS | WINDY | MUM | DAISY |
| BULBS | CHICKS | BLOSSOM | SEEDS |

PLEASE PRINT

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Age .....

To win a goody bag return to
GRAND ORANGE LODGE OF IRELAND, 368 Cregagh Road, Belfast BT6 9EY
before Friday, March 13, 2020

The winner of last month's competition was
10 year old Joshua King, from Lurgan

Please note - Prizes only awarded to entrants under 16 years old

OBSERVER

# Orange still to the fore in County Cavan

County Cavan, one of the three Ulster counties situated in the Republic of Ireland, has a long and proud Orange history, writes Brian Courtney.

The current membership is just a fraction of what it was like 100 years ago when partition saw Cavan separated from the new state of Northern Ireland, and many Protestant and Orange families left to set up home in Northern Ireland and Canada.

However, a significant number of families stayed on in Cavan, and this included members of the Orange Order.

Although much smaller in number, the Cavan Orange folk continued to make an important contribution to Irish Orangeism.

The remaining Cavan lodges continue to keep the Orange tradition going, as a recent BBC programme 'Hame' proved.

The programme, which has a strong Ulster Scots theme, showed that there is still an awareness in parts of Cavan, including Bailieborough, of the links with Scotland which go back centuries, as many of the Ulster Plantation families were from that country.

There are eight Orange halls in County Cavan, and some years ago an Orangeman from the country took me on a tour of the halls, which formed the basis for an article in the Orange Standard.

One of the most impressive of these buildings is Billy Hill Orange Hall, a few miles from Bailieborough. It has excellent facilities, which would compare favourably with most halls, and it is a hub of activity for the local community.

Billyhill has an Orange lodge and Royal Black Preceptory, and it is the meeting place of a very fine accordion band.

The band has a long and proud history, it has excellent leaders, and many young members, which is very encouraging.

The lodges in Cavan, along with neighbouring counties with Orange lodges – Monaghan, Leitrim and Donegal – take part in the annual pre-Twelfth demonstration at Rossnowlagh, County Donegal.

The bands with Orange links join each year with those in Monaghan for an open air picnic and barbecue, and the hundreds of spectators are treated to a fine selection of traditional and more modern tunes.

The late Bro Bill Moody of Poyntzpass, was one of the most enthusiastic friends and supporters of the lodges and bands in the Southern counties.

At a time when there was not the same awareness in Northern Ireland of the important history of Orangeism south of the border, and the part still being played by the fine Orange lodges and Black preceptories which are keeping the tradition going.

On my visit to Billyhill Orange Hall I was fascinated by the photographs on the walls showing the lodge taking part in Twelfth demonstrations from the early 1900s.

I was also impressed by more recent photographs which showed lodges from Orange districts in Northern Ireland which had paid a visit to Billy Hill and other halls.

That is something which should be encouraged, as these visits and support are a boost to the brethren who work so hard to keep the Orange tradition going in those Southern counties.

I can confirm that lodges which make the journey from Northern Ireland to the heartlands of Cavan and Monaghan will receive a warm welcome, as that was my experience when I accompanied the enthusiastic young Orangeman who took me to many of the halls in those counties.

# A strong case for keeping Northern Ireland in the UK

When a life-long friend passed away a few months ago, it created a great sense of loss among his family and friends, including myself.

He had lived in London for some years, and his wife was a native of Dublin. They didn't have any children, and they sold their bungalow in the north London suburbs and moved to Northern Ireland.

I was speaking to my friend's wife recently, and as I was aware that she has siblings in Dublin, asked her if she had thought of moving to the Southern capital.

She was aghast at the idea, and asked me in no uncertain terms why I should even contemplate the idea.

I tried to explain, pointing out that she often takes the train to Dublin to visit her sisters, and doesn't have many close friends in Northern Ireland.

She thanked me for my interest and concern for her welfare, but stressed that she had no interest in re-locating to Dublin.

She told me that her reasons for ruling out such a move are due to financial and economic reasons. Pointing out that house prices in Dublin are sky high, she then went on to point out other reasons.

Top of these by far was the comparison with the National Health Service in Northern Ireland and its southern counterpart.

She said that when her sisters had to call on their doctor, it cost them in the region of £60, and they had to pay for prescriptions.

She also pointed out that her nieces and nephews had to pay for the school books and other items necessary for the education of their children.

A number of other important differences were put to me regarding the cost of living in Dublin compared with Northern Ireland.

The conversation got me thinking about the publicity and noise being made recently about a referendum on Irish unity, and in the light of the conversation with my friend's wife, it convinced me that the Unionist parties must compile a list of services, goods and health facilities in Northern Ireland and compare those with the Republic of Ireland.

Surely it is time for a reality check, and for our Unionist MPs and MLAs to get across the message that Northern Ireland is part of the fifth richest nation in the world, and that the Republic had to rely a few years ago on a huge loan from the United Kingdom to keep it afloat.

To support this case in favour of UK membership, our political representatives need to get their case across to the general public of just what it would mean in financial and economic terms if Northern Ireland was to lose its cherished membership of the United Kingdom.

# Our NHS is second to none!

The National Health Service in Northern Ireland is in crisis, but the service provided by the dedicated and committed staff is world class.

I recently had an operation in the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast and can personally testify to the marvellous care and attention I, and the other people in the ward, received.

We were treated with the utmost care and attention, as well as a positive and helpful support from the surgeons, doctors and nurses, porters, and everyone else. This was of the utmost importance to our recovery and undoubtedly was a key factor in our recovery.

I was in the Royal during the nurses strike, and in spite of the fact that many were on the picket lines, it certainly did not affect the level of care which we received.

A great mistake was made when the decision was taken to pay our Northern Ireland nurses less than their counterparts in mainland Great Britain. The support which the nurses received from the general public during the strike certainly proved that the general public was overwhelmingly behind them.

I certainly welcome the fact that one of the first decisions by the restored Ulster Assembly and Executive was to restore parity of pay for our nurses with those in England and Wales. It is an important first step in what will be a massive challenge for the Executive to solve the unacceptable waiting lists in Northern Ireland and bring them to the same level as those in the rest of the United Kingdom.

It is the most important priority for the Executive, as nothing is more important for people than to have their health problems dealt with in a reasonable time, and it will need an all-out effort to bring about a substantial reduction in waiting times. The message from Health Minister Robin Swann has been encouraging, and I am certain that we all wish the Minister, and everyone else involved, every success in this vital item on the agenda of the Assembly and Executive.



# STEPPING OUT
Supporting our Marching Bands

by Quincey Dougan

# True Blues ready to make Toronto return

The Orange heritage of Canada is well known, but lesser known is that the Toronto Twelfth of July celebrations can actually lay claim to being the longest continually running procession in North America! This year it is will be marking its 200th anniversary, with Orangemen and women from across the globe expected to congregate in the city for the occasion. In fact, the date has been moved to July 25 to accommodate the many visitors.

Among those travelling from Ulster are three bands from Donegal, however another band joining them can make the unique claim of already having made that long journey not once, but twice!

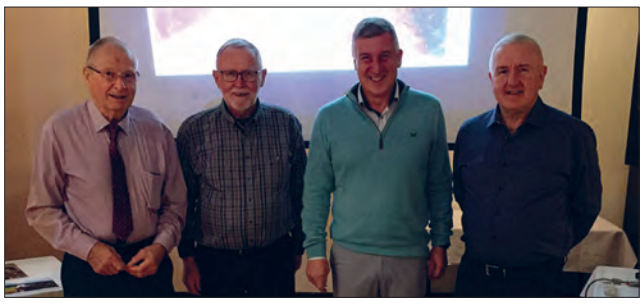
First in 1982 and then again in 1989 when over fifty members of the Portadown True Blues Flute made the then massive financial commitment to bring the band over three thousand mile to parade!

The 1989 trip had many highlights for the Portadown men, with such sights as the Mohawk Orange Lodge still embedded in their memories.

Over the decades that have past, relationships kindled during those trips have seen Canadian Brethren make their way back to the 'home country' to parade on the Twelfth in Portadown, and this year several of the True Blues who made that journey over thirty years ago will be returning the favour.



Portadown True Blues pictured before going to Toronto in 1989



Past Pipe Majors Edwin Campbell and Donald Ferguson, with current Pipe Major Stephen Patterson and leading drummer Keith Ferguson.

# 70th celebrations

Back in 1949 LOL 49 'United We Stand' Castlecaulfield made the decision to form a pipe band, and while many bands formed during that post-war era came and went, the W.J. Armstrong Memorial Pipe Bands is still going strong. The distinctive strains of pipe and drum have been provided by its members during those seventy years right across the Dungannon District and beyond. They recently hosted a gala dinner in the Royal Hotel Cookstown to mark the impressive milestone, with present and past band members and families joined by Lodge members for an evening's entertainment. A large display of memorabilia connected with the bands over those seven decades was also on display.

# Knockmore anniversary

This year the Pride of Knockmore Flute, Lisburn, have organised a number of events to commemorate forty five years marching the streets of Ulster, Scotland and England. They were formed in 1975 during the darkest days of the troubles at a time when bands were springing up across the country and as far as Scotland, and are very proud to be reaching this great milestone.

Their first event to mark the anniversary is a procession around the Knockmore Estate in Lisburn. It was there they did their very first parade in 1975, flautists bedecked in blue jumpers and drummers in white! The band has progressed immeasurably over the decades, and would like to thank each and every person who has given them support over that time.



The Pride of Knockmore pictured on parade in 1975.



# Trio honoured

Hamiltonsbawn Silver Band, the popular Co Armagh Silver Band attached to Hamiltonsbawn LOL 47, recently honoured several long serving members who have decided retire. The records of all three are impressive, with Alexander Nicholl boasting the longest tenure, having joined in 1956 at just six years of age! He was allowed to do so at such a young age because his older brother, and current band chairman, Norman, was already a member.

Euphonium player Sammy Cornet wasn't far behind, entering the ranks in 1960. Derrick Major was a more recent addition to the band, but having joined in 1999 after previously playing with Cookstown Silver, his two decades of service are still rare and notable. Hamiltonsbawn Silver members organised a retirement party to mark the occasion. Pictured with the retirees are band chairman Norman Nicholl and Winston Pearson.

# March date marks the beginning of band parade season

For over a decade now, March 17 has officially marked the beginning of the Band Season in Ulster. Often considered the sole domain of Irish Nationalism (some would say it has been hijacked), arguably the date set aside to remember a Briton who brought Christianity to pagan Ireland, is an incredibly appropriate occasion for a movement founded in the Reformed Faith to host events. Two significant band processions will take place that evening. The first in his ancestral home of Armagh City is hosted by the Cormeen Rising Sons of William Flute, and remarkably on several occasions in terms of numbers of active participants has been one of the largest events of the day in the entire country! Elsewhere, Coleraine will see a band parade organised by the Ulster Protestant Boys Flute. More than 70 marching bands are likely to be on show for these first processions of the year, with the Armagh occasion beginning at 7pm at Armagh Orange Hall before making its way through the City Centre. The Coleraine event starting at the later time of 8.30pm at Killowen Orange Hall.

**If you would like to publicise your band or event, or indeed submit images for publication, please contact Stepping Out on 07835 624 221 or via email at qdougan01@qub.ac.uk. Submissions for ALL of our marching band genres are welcome including flute, accordion, silver and pipe**

PULPIT

by Rev. Ian McClean



# A Place of Refuge for the Refugee

**Only a few years ago, in 2011, South Sudan was a country filled with excitement and hopeful anticipation. This newly formed country had, by agreement, broken away from its northern Islamic neighbour, the Republic of Sudan after nearly 50 years of fighting in which 2.5 million were killed and almost everyone had been displaced.**

Men from Dinka, Nuer and many other tribes were elated as they spoke of the great future they saw ahead for their families. Sadly, within months, their hopes were dashed as the whole country became embroiled in a bitter civil war.

Since 2013 this conflict has claimed the lives of 380,000 and more than 4 million have been displaced, most of whom have fled to neighbouring states. United Nations and the neighbouring countries have been working tirelessly to broker a peace deal in which the President, Salvar Kiir, and the former Vice President, Riek Machar, would form a government of national unity. A deadline has been set for 22nd February 2020. The contentious problem would appear to be the government of the oil-rich administrative area of Ruweng in the north of the country. Both the Dinka, the President's tribe, and the Nuer, the former Vice President's tribe, claim this region as theirs. Just now, with only a few days to go before the deadline, both sides are at loggerheads. Will agreement be reached? Please pray for the people of South Sudan, many of whom are professing Christians.

One of the great causalities in any civil war are the refugees. In 1991 the United Nations established the camp in Kakuma, northern Kenya to accommodate 23,000 Sudanese refugees. Today Kakuma is the largest refugee camp in the world with a population of over 180,000 refugees (more than the population of County Tyrone.) United Nations have done a mammoth job establishing and maintaining this and many other camps throughout the world. It is not an easy task. But, having opened a refugee camp, how do you close it? I have spoken to many of the Kakuma residents. They tell me that they are South Sudanese and proudly say that they are Dinka, Nuer, Murle, Nuba, Shilluk, Anuak or some other tribe. Next question – when the war is over, will you go back to your country? The vast majority, especially those under 40 will say – no! But why? Answer – I have lived in Kakuma all my life. I have married here. My children are here. This is my home. Why should I go to South Sudan? They know no other way of life. The refugee camp is far from ideal, but, to them it is home. Why should they up-root and travel to the unknown? No doubt this problem exists in many other refugee camps throughout the world today.

A similar situation happened in 538 BC when Cyrus the Great of Babylon gave permission for the Jews to return to Palestine. They had been forcibly exiled some 70 years previously, but, during that time two generations of the Jewish people had been born in Babylon and only a few of the very elderly could even remember Jerusalem. The prophet Isaiah was charged with the task of encouraging his people to take up the offer, to return to the land the Lord had promised them, their inheritance as the people of God. You can listen to Isaiah as he addresses the people.

Isaiah 55:1&2 "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what Is good, and delight yourselves in rich food."

He certainly paints an attractive picture of Judah. Here, in Babylon they have to work hard for a pittance. There they will fare well for free. What an offer! Also, he describes a place of beauty and peace. Verses 12 & 13 "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills beforeyou shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle."

Now this offer to return to the Lord's inheritance, he tells them, is time limited (verse 6)

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near."

What will be their response? You have heard this passage before, probably many times. These beautiful words have a two-fold application. The immediate application was to the exiled Jews in Babylon. But, as with so many biblical prophesies, there is an ultimate application which is for us in our day. Isaiah addresses you and me. He makes an offer far greater than that to the Jewish exiles, the offer of Eternal Salvation!

This offer too is free. "without money and without price." Many people believe that they have to pay for their salvation by their good works. Isaiah says – No! The New Testament underscores this. Romans 6:23 "The free gift of God is eternal life" Romans 3:24 "justified by his grace as a gift".

That this prophetic offer to us today is far greater than the offer to the Hebrew people of the 6th century BC is clear from verse 3. "Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live." This is not just about a piece of land in Judea. This is about your eternal soul! The Lord Jesus emphasises this. Matthew 11:28 & 29 "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest .....and you will find rest for your souls."

And while the Hebrew people who returned to Judea looked forward to dwell in peace in that beautiful place on earth, we have a far greater prospect given us by the Lord Jesus Christ in John chapter 14 "In my father's house are many mansions... .....I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." Listen too to the apostle Paul in Philippians 3:20 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transfer our lowly body to be like his glorious body..."

Those words of the prophet in verse 6 apply to us as well. "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near," The offer is time limited. This is something that the Saviour himself warns us about. Can there be a more poignant appeal than the one he gives us in the parable of the ten virgins. The end of that parable we read in Matthew 25:10-13 "And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in 'with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came' also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you,' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

When Isaiah made his plea, the people were divided. Some were not prepared to go. What became of them? They were eventually absorbed into the pagan culture of Babylon and have lost their place among the people of God. Others took up the great offer. They returned to Jerusalem, to the worship of the One True God and in due course they saw the Saviour who came and walked among them.

Isaiah 60:1&2 "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will rise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you."

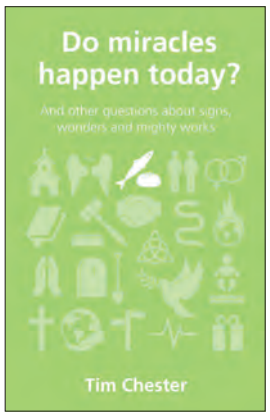
Today, 2,500 years later those who hear Isaiah's message are still divided. There are many who reject the offer. But for those who accept the Great Offer and put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ there is a wonderful future in the New Jerusalem. Revelation 7:14-17 "They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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# BOOKSHELF

by Robin Fairbairn
The Good Book Company

## Do Miracles Really Happen Today?




An engaging and accessible guide to the Bible's teaching on miracles and whether they happen today.

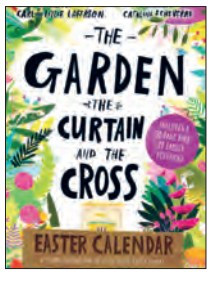
Many extraordinary things happen in the Bible. People walk on water. People touch handkerchiefs and are healed. People disappear into the sky. Did these events really happen? What was their purpose?

And do miracles happen today? How do we respond if someone says they've seen a miracle happen? Should we hold healing services? What can I say to a child about praying for healing? How should we react when prayers for healing aren't answered?

In this warm and accessible book, Tim Chester looks at the Bible's view of the existence and purpose of miracles and gives a careful and balanced view on whether healings and other miraculous things happen today. This short book packs a punch! Tim Chester tackles our questions about miracles honestly and biblically, challenges our assumptions, and leads us to a God who is even bigger than we imagined.

## The Garden, The Curtain and The Cross Easter Calendar

Family devotions based on The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross storybook with Easter calendar.




These two weeks of Easter family devotions based on The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross storybook come in a 32-page booklet. Children aged 5-8 years old will be shown the whole story of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, and will see why Jesus died and rose again.

There is an accompanying 15-door calendar, so kids can count down to Easter and get really excited about it. (Just like an advent calendar!) Start the Sunday before Palm Sunday and begin the countdown. With simple language, engaging questions, clear truths, and a realistic time-frame (this is key!), this is a truly wonderful resource for even the busiest parents to help their children understand the power of the resurrection and God's perfect plan.



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ORANGE NEWS



LOL 417 Ballykeel Defenders Installation of Officers held at Ballykeel Orange Hall, Holywood.



LOL 417 Ballykeel Defenders Bro Frank Geddis WM presents a cheque on behalf of the lodge for £1020 to Bro Sam Walker for the Drew Nelson Legacy Project.

# Ballykeel Defenders LOL 417 installation

Ballykeel Defenders LOL 417, Craigantlet held their annual Installation of Officers at Ballykeel Orange Hall, Holywood on Friday, January 3.
Frank Geddis, Worshipful Master; Stephen Dunne, Deputy Master; Stephen Cousins, Secretary; Denvor Geddis, Chaplain; and David Speers, Treasurer, installed.
Also in attendance were Bro. Sam Walker, County Down Grand Master, Victor Harrison, Past County Down Grand Master, Andrew Davidson, District Chaplain, and visitors from other local lodges. The Lodge also presented a cheque for £1,020 to the Drew Nelson Legacy Project which was raised by the lodge over the last three years through a number of fundraising initiatives including a number of cinema nights and Country Concerts.



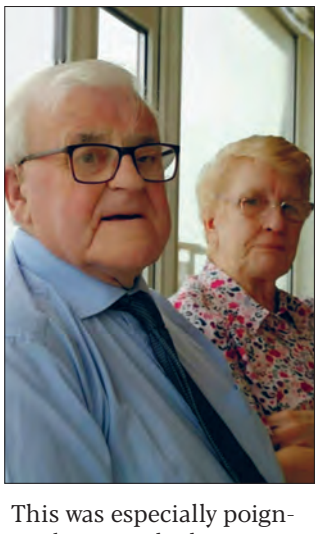
The presentation of 50 year jewel to Deputy Master Trevor Bell took place in Blackskull Orange Hall on January 8. Picrtured are Alan Hudson, Past District Master Lower Iveagh West District No 8 Co Down; Trevor Bell, Deputy Master Blackskull LOL 125; and Sam Kells, Worshipful District Master Lower Iveagh West District No 8 Co Down.



# Installation at Benvarden

It was a full house at Benvarden Orange Hall on Monday, January 13, as over 60 people attended this year's Installation of Officers Ceremony.
Benvarden Lodge marked the important occasion with a number of special presentations.
Bro. Jim Glass, one of the oldest members, received a 60 Year Membership Certificate and Jewel.
The Worshipful Master, Bro. Andy McLean, received a pleasant surprise when he was awarded the status of 'Honorary Member'.
Membership Certificates and Biographies of King William were presented to new members who recently joined the lodge.
Gifts of honour were presented to Rev Ross Collins of Ballywatt Presbyterian Church, Rev John Anderson of St Colman's Church and their wives.
The Worshipful Master's wife, Mrs Isobel McLean, was presented with two special framed photographs to celebrate her 60th Wedding Anniversary.





This was especially poignant because the happy couple, who were married in 1959, held their Wedding Reception in Benvarden Orange Hall.
The evening concluding with a number of loyal toasts to Her Majesty, the Union, the Commonwealth, King William III and The Ladies Committee.
Speaking after the event, Worshipful Master Bro. Andy McLean said: "Benvarden Lodge is on the march! We're going forward, stronger than ever before! Please come forward now and join us as we write the next chapter of The Benvarden Story."
For further details about Benvarden Lodge, please visit www.Benvarden.weebly.com and www.Facebook.com/Benvarden1001

# Orange Lily Bulbs for sale

Boyd Memorial LOL 312 is organising a fundraiser. The lodge is selling Orange Lily Bulbs - a pack of six for £5 - with all proceeds in aid of a Murdered Brethren Stone. Orders for packs can be placed by contacting Billy on 07808 138 012 or George on 07895 205 056. Alternatively you can email boydmemorial@outlook.com. Bulbs will be available from March 1.


Co. Donegal
Grand Orange Lodge

**Escorted Tour to Canada to coincide with the 200th Anniversary 12th Parade in Toronto**

**Tour departs 16th July**
**Arrives back in Dublin on 23rd July**
**Direct Return Flights from Dublin to Toronto**

**3 nights Toronto**
**2 nights Niagara Falls**
**1 night London, Ontario**

Trip includes 3*/4* Accommodation, escorted sightseeing coach tours, entrance fees to major attractions including: CN Tower, Scenic Toronto Harbour Cruise, Winery Tour and Sampling, Voyage to the Falls, Mennonite Story, Horse Drawn Mennonite Farm Tour and Black Creek Pioneer Village. Outlet shopping stop and much more.

Visits to Orange Halls including a specially convened Lodge meeting for Orange Brethren in Niagara Falls Orange Hall.

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MUSEUM NEWS

# New exhibition puts the spotlight on The Association of Loyal Orangewomen of Ireland

The history of Women's Orangeism goes back to before the formal creation of the first Women's Lodge in 1800.

The latest temporary exhibition at the Museum of Orange Heritage traces the history of the Women's Orange lodges in Ireland and throughout the world. It highlights the opposition and support that women have had to have their voices heard and to achieve representation alongside their Orange brethren. Orangewomen are often found leading from the front. The first female member of Belfast City Council, in 1917, Julia McMordie was also the first female High Sherriff and one of the first two female members of the Stormont Government in 1921. The first female MP from Northern Ireland elected to Westminster was also an Orangewoman. Patricia Ford was MP for Strangford from 1953-1955. She was followed in 1955 by Patricia McLaughlin, who was elected MP for West Belfast, the first woman from Northern Ireland to win a contested seat.

It is not just in the field of politics, Orangewomen are represented in other areas of life. They have been authors and poets, artists, doctors, businesswomen, philanthropists, and sports women. Their membership is taken from all walks of life, from the unknown working class women who formed early lodges in England and Scotland, to the women of title such as Lady Randolph Churchill, mother of Winston Churchill, who hoped to use her influence in the early Home Rule debates.

There are Women's Orange Lodges in nine jurisdictions across the globe. In Ireland, where the movement originated, there are currently 90 women's lodges.

This exhibition reveals the history of those associations and of some of the women whose ideals forged them. On display will be items representing women's lodges around the world. The exhibition, entitled 'In the name of the Sisterhood', will be launched on 6 March, in time for International Women's Day, and will run until 30 May.

This exhibition is produced on pop-up stands and will be available for groups to hire from the beginning of June. If you would like to hire the exhibition, free of charge, please contact the Museum of Orange Heritage, Belfast, on 028 9070 1122.



THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

Left: The Officers and Committee of Ireland's Ladies LOL No 1. Sitting, from left; Sister Johnston, Chaplain; Sister McGuiness, Deputy Mistress; Sister Bridgett, Worshipful Mistress; Sister Boyd, Secretary; and Sister Lennox, Treasurer. Standing are Sisters Adair, Lennox, F. Johnston, Jordan and M. Bridgett.

Below: A warrant and collarette.




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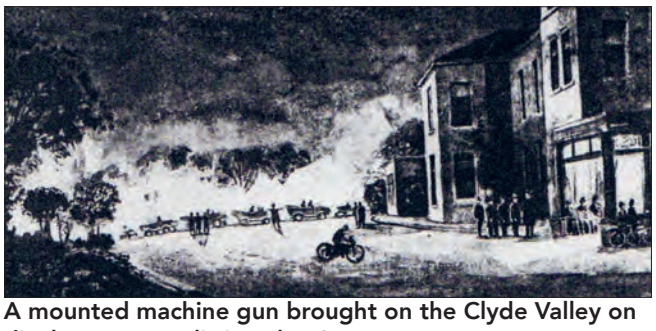
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# Impressive house underlines twists and turns of history

History Lessons
with Dr David Hume MBE

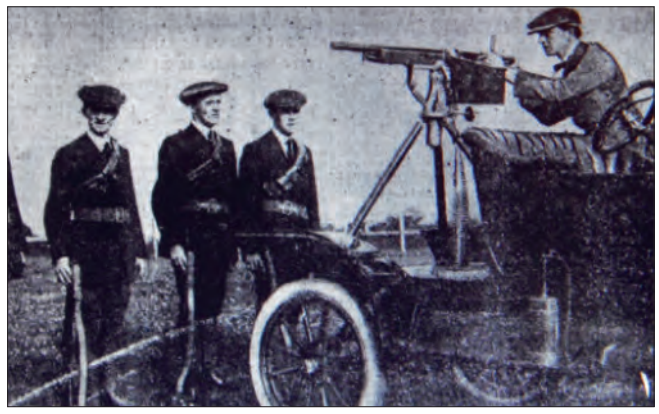
HISTORY provides us with many twists and turns along the road.
In 1905 Drumalis House at Larne hosted members of one of Belfast's prominent Orange lodges, and in 1914 the Drumalis House and estate was the epicentre of the Larne gunrunning.
These days, however, Drumalis is a busy retreat and conference centre, operated by the Sisters of the Cross and Passion Order. On the face of it, the course of the house's history appears to have irony lurking in the corner.
Recently I was asked as part of a Good Relations programme to reflect on the history of the area for a local audience, most of whom had never visited Drumalis.
The impressive house was the former home of the Smiley family, staunchly unionist as well as prominent benefactors to the town of Larne, the Presbyterian Church and other causes.
The Smiley family had come across from Scotland to Antrim in 1680, acquiring property in the Inver area of Larne as well as in Islandmagee.
One of their descendants, John Smiley, who was born in Islandmagee, was a corn merchant in Larne and founded an extensive shipping business. John died in 1878 at the age of 82 years and the business passed to his son Sir Hugh Houston Smiley, who later passed it to his nephews, the Howden Brothers (whose name would continue to be prominent as Howdens coal merchants in later years).
Hugh Houston Smiley was educated at Royal Academical Institution in Belfast and he married Elizabeth Kerr of Gallowhill, Paisley, who was heiress of the famous Coates cotton thread family.
The couple had a house at Gallowhill but in 1885 Hugh purchased the Drumalis estate of the late James Chaine MP and built a new home. This was later redesigned by Elizabeth Smiley and became one of the most elegant of the 'big houses' in the area.



A mounted machine gun brought on the Clyde Valley on display at Drumalis in July 1914.



Visitors today are shown various elements including the beautiful woodwork and stained glass windows as well as rooms including the dining room where Sir Edward Carson once sat and where, it is very likely, planning for the April 1914 gunrunning may have been discussed.
The house was the focal point in 1905 for a visit by members of York LOL 145, who were invited by Sir Hugh and Lady Smiley for the afternoon.
The Northern Whig of August 17, 1905, voiced the opinion that "York Lodge is one of the strongest and most respected in the city, and the great majority of its members availed themselves of the opportunity of spending an enjoyable afternoon." They were joined in their annual outing by other members of the Order in the city, which included, according to the report, Bros. D. W. Foy, John Hume, Bros. Callan and R. Tougher.
"On arrival at Drumalis the guests were received by Sir Hugh and Lady Smiley. Light refreshments were served in the music room and afterwards the members were conducted over the grounds by Captain Smiley. The weather was ideal and the magnificent view from the house was seen at its best," the newspaper reported.
Following the tour the group reassembled in the music room, where the WM of the lodge, Bro. Edward Leathem, chaired short proceedings which included a toast to the King and a musical entertainment. Smiley was described as having "many links that bound him to Belfast, and they might regard him as one of their principal citizens."
The members were also reminded that Sir Hugh's son, Captain Smiley, would be contesting the West Belfast electoral seat and they were encouraged to lend their support.
Sir Hugh Smiley in his remarks said that "He had spent the most impressionable years of his life in Belfast and he had kindly feelings not only for that city, but for the whole of the province."
The Smiley estate would continue to play an important role in unionist history.
Sir Hugh died in 1909, having turned down a peerage a few years before because he disagreed with the Home Rule policies of the Campbell-Bannerman government. At that time he was chief proprietor of the Liberal Unionist newspaper, the Northern Star.



Above: A mounted machine gun brought on the Clyde Valley on display at Drumalis in July 1914.

Left: An old photograph of Drumalis, home of the Smiley family.

But in 1912 when the Ulster Covenant was signed in Larne the most prominent woman to sign was Lady Elizabeth Smiley and her support for the unionist cause, it would appear, extended to making facility for an Ulster Volunteer Force hospital at Drumalis, although information on this remains sketchy.
By 1915 this hospital was being utilised for the war effort and an eyewitness account survives of an inspection of the Corps of Nurses in Larne by Sir William Adair.
Written by American Bessie Galt Smith, it was sent to her mother in Delaware in November 1915 and details that the nurses "are all mill girls from Larne mills and they looked so nice in their blue uniform with the white apron and cap & the red cross".
Lady Smiley had given them her old stables, which had been converted into a hospital. There were no horses any more, although Lady Smiley did have eight motors, the letter states, but from the nurses point of view they had "a fine big room – with a lovely floor and steam heat and kitchen for their Hospital cookery class, a bath room and rather small room".
"Sir William put very searching questions to them and they answered promptly and well. He was very pleased. Two darling Boy Scouts allowed themselves to be bandaged and carried about. They obligingly fainted and were restored to life and motion. They broke their legs and arms and collar bones and had the injured members put in splints & slings & bandages & plasters..." Bessie Galt Smith, who lived at Kilwaughter Castle, relates in the letter.
Drumalis had, of course, been more famous the previous year.
In April 1914 the estate had been used as a short cut for several hundred vehicles which could get access away from prying eyes (principally the Royal Irish Constabulary) to and from the harbour when the gunrunner Clyde Valley arrived with her cargo of arms and ammunition for the Ulster Volunteers.
One of the most famous and formative events in modern Irish history, visitors to Drumalis today are shown the dining room where Sir Edward Carson had dinner.
Following the successful landing of the guns, Carson came to Larne that July, where a mass demonstration was held in the grounds of Drumalis.
Carson reviewed the Central Antrim Regiment of the Ulster Volunteer Force that afternoon and later unfurled one of the canvas strips bearing the name 'Mountjoy II' which Colonel Fred Crawford had painted for the small coal boat as she began her voyage into Larne Harbour en route to a permanent place in history. Also on display was a mounted machine gun, part of the cargo of the Clyde Valley.
Carson spent the weekend at Drumalis House and among those on the platform when he addressed the gathering was Lady Smiley.
Those times seem long distant now. History has also moved on at Drumalis.
In 1926 Lady Smiley, then living in England, gave instructions for the sale of furnishings at Drumalis.
An auction was held over seven days. The house was purchased by local businessman William Crawford but he never moved in.
In October 1929, the Belfast News Letter reported that Drumalis had been sold and was to be converted to a convent. The Northern Whig carried an article a couple of days later, denying that this was the case. Despite the tone of the Northern Whig article, the original was not 'fake news' and the Sisters of the Cross and Passion, who had their premises on the Main Street, would move the short distance to the Drumalis estate.
The Order tells the story of how the Sisters wheeled their belongings up the road in carts overnight so as not to attract unwanted attention from those in the town who did not think they should be moving into one of Larne's most prominent 'unionist' houses.
Today it is encouraging that the story of the gunrunning has a place when the guides at Drumalis show groups around (these have included the Friends of Schomberg House, whose visit I was able to organise as part of a visit to Larne some years ago).
While many at the time felt that the Sisters of the Cross and Passion were intruding into territory that was not their own, I always have to reflect on the other big houses in the area - The Corran, Cairndhu, Inver Lodge, Duneira, Kilwaughter – whose story did not end so well.

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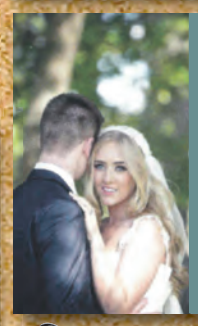
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## Long service recognised at Drumnacross Guiding Star

Bro. George Barnes (seated centre) was presented with a 75 year membership certificate and made an honorary member of Drumnacross Guiding Star LOL 304. He was proposed into the lodge on the 30th June 1944, by Bro. SJ Black and seconded by Bro. H Wright. Members pictured are, standing left to right; WM Bro. Lee Henry; Secretary Bro. Glen Henry; Bro. Frederick Glasgow; Chaplin Bro. Winston Barnes; Treasurer Bro. Nicholas Barnes; and Deputy District Master Bro. Steven Fulton Seated are Bro. Albert Glasgow, Bro George Barnes and Bro Austin Burnett.



## Big Breakfast at Banbridge

Pictured, from left to right, are Aldermen and Bros. Glenn Barr and Ian Burns MBE with Councillor Jill Macauley and son, Harvey, and Roberta Young. The Banbridge Ulster Unionist Group on Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council enjoyed a chat at Banbridge District LOL No7 Annual Big Breakfast Saturday, January 11, in Banbridge Orange Hall.



## Strabane District hosts bowling tournament

Twenty six pairs took part in the annual District Bowling Tournament held in Cullion Orange Hall across three nights in late November.
The winners were Bro. Albert Allan and David Campbell, from Donemana LOL 503. The runners-up were Kenny Parkhill and Matthew Henderson from LOL 1164 and LOL636.
The prizes were presented by the Worshipful Master Bro. Mervyn Rodgers who thanked everyone for taking part. A special thanks went to the members of Cullion LOL 636 and the Ladies Committee who provided the teas.
Pictured above is Worshipful Master Bro. Mervyn Rodgers presenting the winners Bro. Albert Allan and Bro. David Campbell with their prizes.

ORANGE NEWS

# Reception for members of Fourscore LOL 340



The Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Margaret Tinsley hosted a reception in the Palace Armagh for Fourscore LOL 340 and friends. Officers and members of the Fourscore LOL 340 and Junior LOL 83 are pictured with Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Margaret Tinsley.



Officers and members of the Fourscore LOL 340 with Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Margaret Tinsley.



# Cheques at Crosskeys




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Crosskeys LOL 88 held a treasure hunt as a fundraiser for the NI Air Ambulance last year.
Top image: Bro. Stuart Eagle WM, Bro Stanley Herron, Liz McCarragher representing NI Air Ambulance, and Bro. Ivor Broomfield DM, along with lodge members.
Lower image: Bro. Stanley Herron thanking the NI Air Ambulance for their assistance after a farm accident, with Liz McCarragher.



Lodge members and Scottish Brethren.

# Scottish visitors at Kellswater

January 6 saw a very special installation meeting at Kellswater Hall, near Ballymena.
Four members of Kellswater LOL 453 were honoured for their service to the Lodge. Bros. Harry Hill and Abraham McAleese received 50 year jewels, while Bro. Graham Hill received a Bible to mark 40 years of service and Bro. Geoffrey Lamont was presented with his Past Master's jewel.
To add to the occasion three Scottish Brethren travelled from Whitburn to share in the meeting. Bro. William McNulty, District Master of Whitburn, Bro. William Ennis, from Whitburn Bible and Crown LOL 203, and Bro. John Lowry, from Newmains LOL 56, have a close association with Kellswater and the local Brethren were delighted to have them as honoured guests.
After the meeting Bro. McNulty presented Christopher Carson, the incoming WM of Kellswater LOL 453, with a Scottish silver quaich – a Friendship Cup – in memory of the Late Bro. Ian Wilson.



Presentations: Front, Graham Hill, Harry Hill, David McConaghie (District Master), Abraham McAleese, and Geoffrey Lamont. Back, Ivan Wylie (County Grand Tyler), Christopher Carson (WM Kellswater LoL 453).



Bro. William Ennis, Worthy Master of Whitburn Bible and Crown LoL 203, presents a quaich in memory of Bro. Ian Wilson to Christopher Carson, incoming WM of Kellswater LoL 453.