JULY 2020

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THE ORANGE STANDARD

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

REMEMBER 1690 FOUNDED 1973

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ORANGE ORDER



Distribution of PPE and essential items

See pages 11 to 17



Feature: Orangemen on the frontline

See page 19



Orangeism building in Australia!

See page 26

Make your '12th At Home' an occasion to remember!

The Twelfth of July is almost upon us - but it will be very different to those that have gone before.

The Covid-19 pandemic has ensured that the 2020 Twelfth of July will certainly be a unique experience. But that doesn't mean it should be one to forget.

There may not be the traditional parades, but the 330th Anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne can still be celebrated in style.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland is encouraging everyone to take on the 2020 '12th at Home' concept and mark the day with family and friends.

Deputy Grand Master Wor. Bro. Harold Henning said: "The parades might be cancelled - but the 2020 Twelfth of July certainly is not! We must still celebrate King William's momentous and symbolic victory at the Boyne 330 years ago the best way we can.

"Fly flags and bunting, plan barbecues and picnics with family at your home - make this 12th at Home one to remember!"

Read more inside



Family fun preparing for the Twelfth

Four cousins from Portadown JWLOL42 with their Granda George Laverty, secretary of LOL 417, getting ready for the 12th At Home with their arches, Orange lilies and miniature Lambeg drums which they've all made! We've got more of your pictures and crafts on page 25.



STAY at home
PROTECT the NHS
SAVE lives

goli.org.uk/covid
Orange Family:
we're in this together

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EDITORIAL

We've put everyone's health before our traditional Twelfth

It's hard to believe that we are already in the month of July. Maybe it has been lockdown, but the days and weeks just seem to be blending into one.

It's very difficult not to look back and think of all the things that we have missed out on.

Maybe its family events such as birthdays and anniversaries, or major events such as weddings that have been postponed for now as hotels and churches were closed.

Although the restrictions are being altered on a regular basis, the potential to hold anything even approaching our traditional Twelfth of July parades still seems quite a long way off.

All the recent restrictions which have been amended come with the provision that the transmission rate of Covid-19 does not increase - and that is where the cancellation of the Twelfth really comes into affect.

The thought of thousands of people gathering for events, even at this stage with the transmission rate relatively low, could see things take a sharp turn for the worse - and nobody wants to see that.

In 2020, we are putting everyone's health before our traditional Twelfth.

The Orange Institution has taken that step with the best interests of everyone in mind.

Would we all love to be getting ready for the parades to celebrate the 330th Anniversary of the Battle of Boyne? Of course we would! But it wouldn't be the right thing to do.

This is a significant sacrifice the Orange Family is making and one that has been recognised far and wide.

In this edition of the Orange Standard, First Minister Arlene Foster has a message for the Institution.

She writes: "As an organisation grounded in the scriptures, the Institution has certainly matched their prayers with actions to support frontline workers and helped the vulnerable by delivering meals or placing a friendly phone call to people who were shielding. People of all faiths and none were given practical support."

UUP leader Steve Aiken MLA and TUV Leader Jim Allister MLA have also sent messages of support for the Institution and passed on their best wishes to all.

Everyone is being invited to take part in the 2020 12th at Home celebrations.

Thousands of you have already visited the dedicated webpage - www.goli.org.uk/12thathome - to find out what its all about.

Hundreds have sent in images of their lodge banners and pictures from Twelfth of July parades from years gone by.

Not parading our traditional routes through our home villages, towns and cities is a disappointment.

However, the Rt Wor. Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, Jim McHarg summed the situation up very well in his message to the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland.

He writes: "We may not be parading or marching with our bands, but I can assure you the Orange members and lodges have been marching the streets of Scotland over the last three months. Yes, marching with food parcels, prescriptions, sanitising goods and financial aid, all gifted to those in need of our assistance."

It has been the same here as Brethren and Sisters, bands and their supporters have been playing a central role in the fight against Covid-19.

As we approach the 2020 Twelfth of July, everyone is reminded to celebrate the occasion but to take care, stay safe and respect the restrictions.



It's about the 'Battle with the Bug' in 2020 for Belfast County

The County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast launched its annual Belfast Orangefest campaign in mid-June which is encouraging everyone to have an enjoyable, but different Twelfth this year.

For 2020, the familiar slogan 'It's About the Battle not the Bottle', has been replaced with 'This year, it's about the Battle with the Bug'.

Belfast County has enjoyed considerable success with its campaign to combat on street drinking at the Twelfth parade. But this year they have adapted their message as the Orange Institution does its bit to prevent the potential spread of Covid-19.

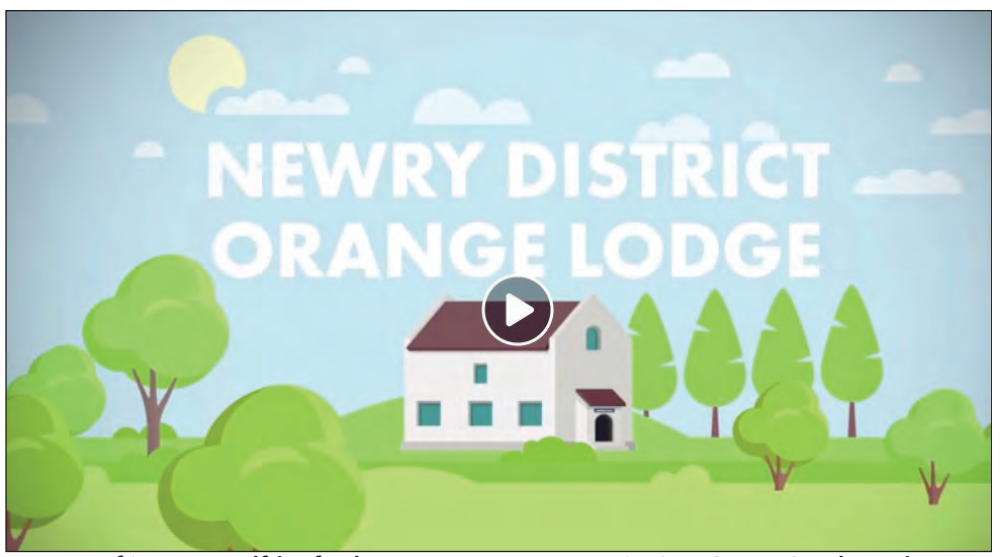
Twelfth related messages, which over recent years have appeared on busses and billboards, have this year been replaced with a dedicated social media campaign.

Posts on the Belfast Orangefest social media Facebook and Twitter channels featured messages from 'Red Hand Luke' and a special video attracted attracted more than 300,000 views.

Speaking at the launch of this year's campaign, County Grand Master, Spencer Beattie said: "2020 will be remembered as the 'Stay at Home 12th' since the Orange Institution have cancelled their parades to stop the potential spread of Coronavirus. While I want everyone to have a great day, it is important we all obey the regulations in place at the time."

The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Belfast, Frank McCoubrey was shown the logo for 2020 Belfast Orangefest and briefed about the extensive campaign that Belfast County has arranged.

The Lord Mayor commented: "It's great to hear how Belfast Orangefest have adopted their theme to prioritise the health of everyone in the City. The Twelfth is a great occasion for many of our citizens; I congratulate Spencer and the County on this initiative and want to wish everyone a great, socially distanced, stay at home, Twelfth of July."



As part of its pre-Twelfth of July programme, Newry District LOL No 9, released a video on social media entitled "Unpeeling the Orange". It was produced to try and dispell the myths and misconceptions of what really happens behind the doors of an Orange Hall and to increase an understanding of the Orange Institution where our cultural expression is celebrated and embraced by all.

ORANGE NEWS

Grand Master Most Wor. Bro. Edward Stevenson



It is important we mark Twelfth as best we can

As we enter the month of July it really hits home just how much life has changed for us all over the past four months.
Few would have believed the world would have been so dramatically altered in such a short space of time.
Covid-19 or Coronavirus was not a phrase many of us would have been familiar with at the end of 2019. But I doubt anyone will ever forget it.
As an Institution we have seen the very best of our membership. The Christian spirit of generosity, helping your neighbour and looking out for friends and family in a time of global crisis has been to the fore. That generosity has not be reserved for those in our own cimmunity. Rather it has been shared with everyone in need.
I have been fortunate to see and hear first hand much of the good work that has been done. In truth, I am deeply humbled by the hard work and acts of kindess that the Orange Family has been actively involved in since March.
Perhaps the biggest single act has been the cancellation of our traditional Twelfth of July demonstrations.
We should have been planning to hold events right across the jursidiction of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland. Eighteen venues should have been hosting parades but it was simply not possible while the the dark cloud of Covid-19 loomed large over society.
And so the decision was taken to cancel all our Twelfth of July events.
I have said before that this was no easy decision. Nor was it one taken lightly.
It was a decision taken with the health and well-being of our members, their families and the wider community at its centre.
We will all miss the traditional Twelfth parades with their heritage, culture and history. The sounds of the bands and the spectacle of tens of thousands of Orangemen and women parading.
But I would encourage everyone to recognise that this sacrifice was absolutely necessary as we play our part in preventing the spread of Covid-19.
To ensure the 330th Anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne is still celebrated appropriately, I asked Deputy Grand Master Wor. Bro Harold Henning to oversee the '12th At Home' events.
A lot of hard work has been done and I'm sure you will all have seen the range of activities for families that are available on the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland website. It is our aim to make this Twelfth one to remember.
Our rich history and culture deserves to celebrated and that responsibility falls on us all to ensure that it is. However, we must continue to be responsible.
We continue to see amendments to the restrictions but it is important that we respect the guidelines that will help to bring us through this terrible pandemic.
I wish you all a safe and enjoyable '12th At Home'.

Make your '2020 12th At Home' one to remember!

By Deputy Grand Master Wor. Bro. Harold Henning





The full Radio Boyne programme schedule is on page 5

It's the start of July and of course everyone's thoughts will be turning to the Twelfth.
It is the most important time of the year for many of us and one that I can safely say we all enjoy.
I look forward to the Twelfth of July every year. It is truly a unique event. The sight of Orangemen, women and juniors on parade led by some wonderful bands is a spectacle that is hard to beat.
The fact that our parades attract crowds of over a quarter of a million spectators certainly shows that I'm not alone in my enjoyment of the Twelfth.
However, 2020 is year that has presented a unique set of challenges.
Covid-19 has had a devastating affect on the world we live in - there's no doubt about that.
But we must continue to celebrate important events in the best way possible, in line with the restrictions put in place by Government to help prevent the spread of this awful disease.
The Orange Institution will mark the 330th Anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne with the 2020 12th at Home celebrations.
I am delighted to have been asked by the Most Wor. Grand Master, Bro. Edward Stevenson to oversee these events.
I want everyone to remember that just because our parades and gatherings may be cancelled – it doesn't mean the 2020 Twelfth is cancelled. It certainly is not! King William's momentous and symbolic victory at the Boyne 330 years ago will most certainly still be celebrated. And there are a number of ways you can do that.
We want families to mark the occasion in their homes, online and at their door.
We have put together a range of activities and resources on the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland website - goli.org.uk/12thathome - to help all members of the Orange Family have a good time over the Twelfth weekend.
Radio Boyne is a big part of what we have planned and I am particularly excited about it.
We recently launched the full schedule of programmes for the four days of broadcasting, which will see a great blend of music, history, culture, faith and feature interviews.
I know a lot of hard work has gone into this project and we are grateful to all those who have given of their time and talents in preparing this.
It is important that the traditional elements of our Twelfth of July demonstrations are also covered. Platform proceedings, including the reading of the resolutions, and a Boyne Annual Divine Service will be broadcast over the Twelfth weekend and our Grand Chaplains have prepared a special prayer which can be read out at your ho.
I would encourage everyone to plan their day. Take a look at the webpage - www.goli.org.uk/12thathome - where there are craft ideas for children, recipe ideas and the history of the Battle of Boyne.
I hope you all have a wonderful 12th at Home and stay safe.

Grand Mistress Sister Joan Beggs

Let's make this a great celebration!

The Association of Loyal Orangewomen of Ireland are justly proud of the contributions of food parcels, money and other items made by the Orange Family to members of their local community and the NHS.
This has been happening on an almost daily basis.
We are so proud that so many of our lodges are associated with this and supporting their local communities in so many different ways. We have always strived to be a charitable organisation and these actions show we are achieving this aim.
As we come into July our thoughts justifiably turn to our usual parades and other cultural activities which unfortunately cannot take place this year owing to government restrictions. The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland has been pro-active in organising a celebration of the Twelfth this year in a different format so that everyone may celebrate whilst keeping within the current guidelines.
On Sunday, 12th July, I would encourage all Sisters in our jurisdiction to attend Drive-In Services and other events which have been organised



locally to give thanks for the victory at the Battle of the Boyne and celebrate on Monday at home. Since we have no parade invitations this year, I'd just like to say to all the Sisters that they may attend these events wearing proper regalia where required. Let us all pull together and make this a great celebration despite the restrictions.
A lot of the Districts are also missing our commemoration of the Battle of the Somme on 1 July and we would keep the memory of our War Veterans, murdered Brethren and Sister, Covid-19 victims and other bereavements in our minds at this time. Lest we forget to remember them and their passing from this world.
We all should look forward with enthusiasm to 2021 and the celebrations for the Centennial of the Foundation of Northern Ireland. We trust next year's Twelfth will be bigger and better!

ORANGE NEWS

The Twelfth of July resolutions

2020 FIRST RESOLUTION: THE FAITH

As members of The Loyal Orange Institution of Ireland, we affirm our belief that the Word of God, as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only infallible rule of faith and practice. We therefore further affirm that we believe salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone and to the glory of God alone.
During the days of this Coronavirus pandemic, and at all times, we call upon people to recognise that God works all things according to the counsel of His own will and for His own glory. Therefore, we need to echo the words of Job, "Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble" (Job 2:10 N.I.V.)
We offer our sincere sympathy to all who have been bereaved during the Coronavirus pandemic, whether from Covid 19 or for other reasons.
James 2:17 says "...faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." Therefore, we commend our Brethren who have been reaching out in practical and financial ways to show their support for The National Health Service, local Care Homes and those in need.
Recognising the spiritual and moral decline of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland we urge all our Brethren and all Bible believing Christians to lay to heart the words of 2nd Chronicles7:14. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land."

2020 SECOND RESOLUTION: LOYALTY

That we, the members of the Loyal Orange Institution of Ireland, in commemoration of the 330th anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne do hereby reaffirm our devotion and loyalty to the Throne and Person of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Her other Realms, Defender of The Faith.
We give thanks for the unstinting faith, loyalty, and devotion of our Sovereign and recognise her commitment to our Nation – especially in these past months of suffering and uncertainty. We also congratulate the Duke of Edinburgh on his recent ninety ninth birthday and express our best wishes for good health at this time.

2020 THIRD RESOLUTION: THE STATE

In a year when we have witnessed the frailness of mankind, we recognise and pay tribute to our National Health Service and all essential workers who have valiantly served our community in the face of Covid-19. We remember those in authority including W. Brother Robin Swann, who as Northern Ireland Health Minister, has played a key role in combating the most severe threat to public health in living memory.
We reaffirm our long-held commitment that our community's prosperity, safety and liberties are best served and protected as citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
We further reinforce our ongoing opposition to any political or economic developments which would see Northern Ireland's constitutional position undermined as a result of the implementation of Brexit.
We recognise the renewed political efforts to deal with the Legacy of our recent past. We urge those in authority to act with honour, proportionality and principle when addressing these matters. Society must never be allowed to forget the cost paid by our community including the many members of this Institution murdered at the hands of terrorists. No political deal should permit the continued distortion and revisionism we have witnessed by those who seek to rewrite the true legacy of those years.



Due to the ongoing restrictions imposed as a result of the Coronavirus pendemic, it has not been possible for lodges and districts to hold their traditional Orange Church Services.
To ensure that these services go ahead, many districts have streamed services on social media or shared recorded messages from chaplains.
With restrictions easing in recent weeks, the introduction of drive-in church services has become a very popular alternative.
Details of a number of drive-in Orange services which are being organised by districts right across the province have been shared on the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Facebook page.

Arches take pride of place

Orange Arches have been erected in number of towns and villages across the jurisdiction of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland.

At the time of this edition of the Orange Standard being published dozens of arches had been put with many more expected to follow. We have just a few images here, however we will share more on the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Facebook page.


Banbridge



Mountjoy



Newbuildings


Ballymacash



Dromore


Loughgall

ORANGE NEWS

Friday 10 July

11.00 - 11.05: 'Chaplain's Thought'
Each day a Grand Lodge Chaplain will share a thought for the day.

11.05 - 12.00: '12th at Home' Goes Live
Deputy Grand Master Harold Henning will launch 'Radio Boyne', with presenter David S playing some toe-tapping tunes to commence the celebrations.

12.00 - 13.00: 'Birth of Orangeism'
The Orange Story – exploring the origins and development of the Orange Institution.

13.00 - 13.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

13.05 - 14.30: 'The Orange Family: A Worldwide Fraternity'
Learn how Orangeism was exported around the world. Hear from today's leaders and what it means to be a member outside the island of Ireland.

14.30 - 16.00: ''Twelfth' Request Show'
Radio Boyne's resident host David S, plays your requests

16.00 - 16.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

16.05 - 18.00: 'Orange Winners'
The annual Orange Community Awards recognises the achievements of local members. Meet some of the winners from over the years.

18.00 - 18.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

18.05 - 19.00: 'King Billy's (Men & Women) On the Wall'
Hear the stories of some famous, and some not so well-known members featured on the Museum of Orange Heritage Wall of Fame.

19.00 - 20.00: 'For Singing & For Dancing'
Traditional tunes and a range of music for all tastes.

20.00 - 20.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

20.05 - 21.00: 'For Singing & For Dancing'
Enjoy the 'craic' as David S brings day one of Radio Boyne to a close.

Radio Boyne schedule of programming

Saturday 11 July

11.00 - 11.05: 'Chaplain's Thought'
Each day a Grand Lodge Chaplain will share a thought for the day.

11.05 - 12.00: ''Twelfth' Request Show'
Radio Boyne's resident host David S, plays your requests

12.00 - 13.00: 'Celebrations Across the Country'
We hear about traditional Orange celebrations from local festivals and events around the Province.

13.00 - 14.00: 'Auld Orange Ballads'
Matthew Warwick shares ballads and folk music with an Orange connection.

14.00 - 14.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

14.05 - 16.00: 'Hands Across the Sea'
We celebrate the close connection between Ulster and Scotland, with contributions from both sides of the Irish Sea.

16.00 - 16.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

16.05 - 17.00: 'With Heart & Hand'
Contributions from the North West

17.00 - 18.00: 'Keep her Lit'
Traditional tunes and music for all tastes to as David S kicks off your 11th night Barbecue.

18.00 - 18.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

18.05 - 20.00: 'Keep her Lit'
Enjoy the party atmosphere with the songs and bands and some comedy thrown in.

20.00 - 20.05: 5-Minute Orange History Segment
A five-minute history lesson with Dr Jonathan Mattison, Museum of Orange Heritage

20.05 - 21.00: 'Keep her Lit'
More music and song to bring out Eleventh Night broadcast to an end.

Sunday 12 July

11.00 - 11.05: 'Chaplain's Thought'
Each day a Grand Lodge Chaplain will share a thought for the day.

11.05 - 12.00: ''Twelfth' Request 'Sunday' Show'
Radio Boyne's resident host David S, plays your requests

12.00 - 13.00: 'Steadfast & True'
Learn more about the Protestant Reformation and its enduring significance

13.00 - 15.00: 'My Favourite Hymns'
Two hours of cherished hymns selected by a range of well-known personalities.

15.00 - 15.30: 'Annual Boyne Divine Service'
Conducted by the Grand Chaplains in the birthplace of Orangeism -Sloan's House, Loughgall.

15.30 - 16.00: 'Gospel Goal'
Learn about this exciting Christian outreach at football grounds around the country.

16.00 - 17.00: 'Twelfth' Request 'Sunday' Show
Another opportunity to send in your special Sunday requests.

17.00 - 19.00: 'Stories behind the Hymns'
Rev. Dr. Ron Johnstone shares the stories that inspired some of our greatest hymns.

19.00 - 20.00: 'Tunes of Glory'
Iain Carlisle introduces a range of sacred marches and hymns performed by bands from across the land.

20.00 - 21.00: 'Old Tyme Gospel'
Bring the day to a close with the Thompson Brothers playing the choruses and hymns of yesteryear in their own unique style.

RADIO BOYNE
Making 2020 a Twelfth to Remember

Monday 13 July

09.30 - 09.35: 'Chaplain's Thought'
Each day a Grand Lodge Chaplain will share a thought for the day.

09.35 - 11.00: 'On the Rolls'
David S starts the day's celebrations rolling, with contributions from around the Province.

11.00 - 11.10: 'Act of Remembrance'
Led by a Grand Chaplain, we remember the service and sacrifice of those who gave so much for our freedom.

11.10 - 12.30: 'Military Music & Marches'
A range of patriotic music and stirring tunes from across the United Kingdom.

12.30 - 15.00: 'To the Field and Back'
Enjoy the sounds of the Twelfth which traditionally provide the soundtrack for marchers and spectators alike.

15.00 - 15.30: '330th Anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne - Platform Proceedings'
Led by the Grand Master, the traditional resolutions will be read and a short service conducted by a Grand Chaplain.

15.30 - 18.00: 'At the Field'
Relax and enjoy a family picnic at home, as you listen to David S and hear more of your requests.

18.00 - 19.00: 'Reflections on the 'Twelfth''
Hear some thoughts on what the Twelfth means to some well-known personalities.

19.00 - 21.00: 'Safe Home Sisters & Brethren'
As this very different Twelfth draws to a close, we look forward to 2021. Tune in to hear about our CentenNIal celebration plans for the foundation of Northern Ireland.

ORANGE NEWS

We will miss our traditional Twelfth - but it will return!

Every year the members within the Orange Institution look forward to the Twelfth of July. We come together to celebrate our culture and heritage. This is the time when many thousands of us Scots travel to Southport in England and of course to towns the length and breadth of Northern Ireland in order to watch or preferably take part in the colourful, vibrant and musical spectacle that is known as our Glorious Twelfth.
This would have been my 40th consecutive Twelfth where as guest speaker at the East Antrim combine Demonstration.
Sadly, because of the covid-19 pandemic, parades and marches are not possible for the time being. I know many of our members still intend travelling to Ulster to be with their many friends and to raise a glass and toast the memory of our great Deliverer King William III. It is my intention to make the journey and of course I send greetings and best wishes to all in our Orange Family in these strangest of times.
We may not be parading or marching with our bands, but I can assure you the Orange members and lodges have been marching the streets of Scotland over the last three months. Yes, marching with food parcels, prescriptions, sanitising goods and financial aid, all gifted to those in need of our assistance.
While others carry out despicable attacks on statues and memorials across our nation, the Orange Order demonstrates love, compassion, kindness and friendship in our country where all lives matter.
Whatever you are doing over the Twelfth period, whether it's virtual parades or gatherings maybe even barbeques or garden parties, please stay safe.
Never forget that we are fortunate to be members of a wonderful organisation and will meet again in traditional form in the near future.
T'was grace that brought us safe thus far.
And grace will lead us home.
God bless,
Jim McHarg, Most Worthy Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland



No parades as we seek to protect good work of NHS

Here we are July the 12th and there are no parades or church services. Is it July or have we missed something? That's how strange this year has been. No-one in their right mind would have expected this situation this time last year. But we, as a law abiding Institution, have to follow the guidance laid down by the Government, and most of all, we have to act in a responsible manner to keep not only our members but also the general public's safety.
Great strides have been made over the past three months trying to keep the virus under control



by keeping people/families at home, only certain businesses open, people going to work who couldn't work from home, in the hope that deaths could be kept to as low as possible. We must not act in a way that will undo all of the hard work done by the NHS staff and the Care Home staff and not only their hours in work, but the sacrifices made to their families.
So we have a situation where we remember the 330th Anniversary of William's victory at the Boyne in a totally different angle. I as an individual have never been to school or worked on the 12th. I can remember as young as five years old walking with my Junior lodge and walking in the Band from the age of seven.
This year myself and my fellow Officers will meet at the Cenotaph in the centre of Liverpool to lay a wreath to remember all those who gave their lives for us all. We will also remember the contribution that members of the world wide Orange Family gave with their lives and the many thousands who served with valour.
In England there will be various activities taking place, such as wreath laying, films on show of past July parades and where possible families getting together.
Also not forgetting the members working voluntarily in their communities.
It will be strange and will feel odd but we must put negative thoughts to one side and look to the year 2021, and hope that we will be referring back to the traditional Twelfth and parade proudly, walking upright and showing the world that the future's bright the futures Orange.
I wish you all a safe and happy 12th, with God's Blessing on you all. Act responsibly and respectfully and be proud of the colours that we wear.

Bro. W R Bather
Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of England

Virus cannot dampen the 'spirit of the Twelfth' and what it means

The year 2020 will certainly be one to remember due to the Coronavirus and the destruction it has wrought around the world, with so much loss of life and the disruption it had caused to everyday life.
The 'Twelfth' being the focal point in the Orange Calendar has suffered and the disappointment of not being able to celebrate it is understandable.
Here in Australia we don't hold parades as such but each of the Australia States celebrate in their own way, always on the Saturday nearest to the Twelfth day. This will include holding religious services, social gatherings or holding wreath laying ceremonies at memorials.
This year, most of the states have cancelled the social gatherings due to in part the age demographics of the members and the high risk posed to them.
Never the less, the day will not be forgotten and each and every member will celebrate the Twelfth of July in his or her own way.
It will take more than a virus to dampen the 'Spirit of the Twelfth' and what it means to all of us.
Through the medium of the Orange



Standard may I wish every member throughout the Orange World a safe and secure Twelfth and may God bless you all.

Yours fraternally,
John R Morrow,
Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Australia

Lodges in Canada look at different ways to celebrate the Twelfth

Greetings Brothers and Sisters from the officers and members of the Grand Orange Lodge of Canada, I hope this message finds everyone healthy mentally and physically.
Since my last correspondence, some provincial governments have started to ease the restrictions for indoor and outdoor gatherings.
With Canada being 5,187 km east to west and 4,627 km north to south, the timeline between opening different provincial jurisdictions can vary greatly as well the criteria for meetings differ from one place to another. Two provincial jurisdictions in Canada now allow people to congregate in limited numbers, thus allowing some churches and lodges to reopen with social distancing being practiced.
This is the first time in two hundred years there will be no July 12th parade in the city of Toronto, Ontario. The County of Toronto is trying to organise a virtual parade, with members across Canada sending a ten-second video bringing greeting from their lodges. Some lodges are holding Orange walks in small communities while following the rules set out at this time.
Let us pray this situation resolves its self in



the near future, though I fear this pandemic is far from over.
I wish all brothers and sisters in Northern Ireland and other countries all the best.

God Bless stay safe and No Surrender.
Fraternally.
M.W. Brother Donald Wilson
Grand Master and Sovereign of the Grand Orange Lodge of Canada

ORANGE NEWS

Messages of support from Northern Ireland political leaders

By Rt. Hon. Arlene Foster MLA, First Minister of Northern Ireland & DUP Leader

2020 will be remembered as the year when the best laid plans were set to one side to help contain covid-19. At this time of the year for as long as I can remember, the band parades would have been commonplace for the last few weeks on Friday and Saturday evenings throughout Fermanagh and the Clogher Valley. Back to my days being in a band, we would have been gearing up for the First of July, Rossnowlagh and the Twelfth.

This year has been different. It's the first time in my life and the lives of my children when the band practice hasn't been a weekly event and no parades have taken place but all for good reason.

I commend the Orange Order membership not only for their leadership in discouraging mass gatherings but also in the support role that the Orange family have played not only in Northern Ireland but also in the Republic too. As an organisation grounded in the scriptures, the Institution has certainly matched their prayers with actions to support frontline workers and helped the vulnerable by delivering meals or placing a friendly phone call to people who were shielding. People of all faiths and none were given practical support.

We are now entering the recovery phase and exiting the covid-19 restrictions, but the Order also has an important part to play. Just the way local lodges were able to make the Institution relevant to the lives of everyone in their community, that should be a goal even as, God willing, we look at covid-19 in the rear-view mirror. Indeed, whilst the Education Minister hopes to have all pupils back in school full time from September and not have any need for social distancing, in the event where the virus is back on the march, the Department will explore the use of Orange Halls as additional space for schools to use.

With a network of halls and a grassroots membership, I have always felt the Institution was underutilised within the reaches of government. Many halls are in areas where community facilities are in scarce supply, homework and youth clubs are needed, and



older people need somewhere to meet together. We must work together strategically to build on this.

The Orange Order is a key stakeholder in Northern Ireland with emergency service workers, health workers, agri-food workers as well as employers too all making up the membership. Everyone has their part to play in Northern Ireland. I want to work with you as we rebuild the country, enter 2021 and mark the centenary of Northern Ireland. We want to do it by looking forward and building for the next 100 years rather than just looking back and celebrating the last 100 years.

Finally, to each and every member I say thank you for your patience and leadership. I urge you to work with us as we plot our way out of this pandemic. There will be clusters of the virus as we relax the restrictions, but by working together we can manage our way through.

Have a Glorious Twelfth with your family wherever you celebrate across the world.

UUP Leader Steve Aiken OBE MLA



This year will of course be a Twelfth like no other, as Grand Lodge took a very commendably early decision not to hold parades and demonstrations in 2020 once it became apparent of the extent of the threat posed by the Covid-19 virus and the risk of it spreading via large gatherings.

I know full well how difficult a decision this will have been to take, but I also know that the fact it was the right and responsible thing to do for the sake of the health of the wider community, will have made it easier to accept.

One of the most heartening and impressive aspects of these strange times we are living in, has been the way the community has pulled together to help each other. This has been particularly true of the Orange family, and like many people, I have noted the huge contribution that individual lodges have made to their local communities, getting out on the ground and ensuring that vulnerable neighbours are safe and well, and that help is at hand should anyone require it.

The Twelfth plays a major role in the cultural life of Northern Ireland, even for people who may have no family connections with the Order itself, but who simply enjoy the sounds and the spectacle of the day. The annual Twelfth day provides a focal point for families and friends, whether they are marching or walking or lining the route to spectate. It is traditionally a day of people coming together, catching up with old friends, and celebrating the day as families have done for many decades.

Growing up in Newtownabbey I have many fond memories of the Twelfth, watching my dad in the great Ballyduff Silver Band leading Burnside Lodge for many years, and seeing my Uncles and Great Uncles as they marched in their lodges; and since I've come home, I've managed to attend many of the 'Twelfths', especially enjoying those in the Six Mile Valley, but then of course, I'm biased.

One of the more memorable Twelfth experiences was back in the late 1980's, when I was a Royal Naval Submariner, sitting looking out of the periscope in the North Channel, and seeing the glow of the huge Kings Moss Bonfire. It was amazing to see, but also poignant, to be in some ways so close, but away from my wider family whom I knew would be preparing for the 'walk' later that very morning.

If that was a strange Twelfth, this year will also fall into that category as people heed the Grand Master's wise advice and prepare to celebrate the 2020 Twelfth at home. However, you spend your Twelfth holidays, do have a great time and please stay safe and let's all look forward to 2021 when we can celebrate both the Twelfth and the start of Northern Ireland's second century.

TUV Leader Jim Allister MLA

Across society, there are many people who have made huge sacrifices this year. Young couples have had to cancel weddings. Holidays abroad have been cancelled. Parents have become home educators overnight. We have all had to forgo visits from relatives for months. But this all pales into insignificance when we think of those who have died as a result of Covid-19. There has also been the sacrifice of so many who have forgone normal funerals for loved ones because they wanted to obey the law and play their part in combating the spread of the virus. I know individuals who have made such sacrifices have been particularly grieved when a blind eye was turned by the powers that be - and much of the media - to the flouting of the law at Republican funerals and Black Lives Matter protests.

In contrast to this irresponsible behaviour, the Order has stepped up to the plate both as individual members who have served as key workers or helped with deliveries to the elderly and as an Institution. Throughout the Province, the Orange banner displaying support for the NHS and supporting key public health messages have displayed leadership we haven't seen from any other voluntary organisation.

But while others looked for loopholes in the legation and refused to forgo their right to demonstrate for the good of society at large, the Institution took a responsible decision early on and cancelled the traditional Twelfth celebrations. I know that this is a huge sacrifice for an organisation which exists to celebrate the freedoms won at the Boyne but it is testament to the sense of civic responsibility of Orangeism that the decision was taken so quickly and accepted without dissent from the rank and file.

I commend the innovation of those who have put together an exciting online programme of events to replace the traditional Twelfth. The resources which have been produced including the planned online radio broadcasts and resources to mark the "12th at Home" are innovative with something for all ages. The appeal for members to send in images of Twelfth celebrations in previous years have the potential to discover items of real historic value.

2020 is a year none of us will ever forget for many reasons, not least the foregoing of the traditional Twelfth. However, I would encourage everyone to make the most of it and utilise the resources which have been produced.



ORANGE NEWS

Somme Anniversary resource available online

The 1st of July is an important date for the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland as the Institution commemorates the anniversary of the Battle of the Somme Anniversary.
Traditionally, many memorial parades would take place across the Province. However, this year will be very different as such gatherings and events all have been cancelled due to the ongoing battle against Coronavirus.
Even with the current restrictions, it is important that we continue to remember and commemorate the service and sacrifice of those who fought.
At the beginning of June, The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland launched a dedicated web page to support socially distanced Acts of Remembrance at local memorials and to encourage individuals and families to mark the occasion in their homes as we remember our heroes, both then and now.
The page features a range of interesting pieces on the Orange Connection to the battle, including stories of Brethren who fought; historical articles on the context of the Battle and the role of the 36th (Ulster) Division.
The Lily & Poppy Exhibition, first launched by the Museum of Orange Heritage in 2016 to commemorate the centenary of the battle, is also available to view as part of the Heritage at Home series.
There is also a range of resources online, including a suggested Act of Remembrance and colouring and crafts ideas for children.
You can take a look at the page by visiting www.goli.org.uk/somme
Everyone is encouraged to share details of the Battle of the Somme Anniversary page with your Brethren, on your Lodge pages and with family and friends.



Service and sacrifce remembered on 104th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme

Curator of the Museum of Orange Heritage at Schomberg House, Dr Jonathan Mattison, looks at the stories of Orangemen and their contribution at the Battle of the Somme.


Rifleman Robert Quigg VC


Private Robert Watson


Private Herbert Gray

The Battle of the Somme was one of the bloodiest battles in British history. The first day of the battle, on the 1st of July 1916, has always had a special place in the hearts of many Ulstermen and women, largely because of the role of the 36th (Ulster) Division. It is also important to remember that many other Orangemen fought throughout the British forces, especially those from Canada, Newfoundland, Scotland and England.

Rifleman Robert Quigg, VC
Robert Quigg was the son of Robert and Matilda Quigg and a member of Aird LOL No. 1195. He served with 12th Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles and was in the thick of the action on 1 July 1916.
Upon returning to allied lines on the night of 1 July he discovered that one of his commanding officers, Sir Harry MacNaghten, was missing. In a vain attempt to find him, Quigg ventured out into No Man's Land seven times between 1 and 2 July. On each occasion he returned to the trenches with a wounded soldier, but was unable to find MacNaghten, whose remains were never recovered. For this Robert Quigg received the Victoria Cross. Quigg survived the war. He died in 1955 at Ballycastle, County Antrim, and was buried in Billy Parish Churchyard, with full military honours.

Private Herbert Gray
Herbert Gray, known as Bert, was a member of Redrock Presbyterian Church and of Killycopple LOL No. 345.
Bert had joined up in the original draft to the 9th Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers, confirming that he was a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force.
An eventful war saw him wounded three times, including at Hamel on 1 July 1916, before eventually being discharged as no longer physically fit for war service.
Bert maintained that his life had been saved at Hamel by a New Testament he had been given and which he carried with him all the time. A bullet struck the Testament at his chest and ricocheted into his arm.

David Hutchinson, MSM
David Hutchinson was the son of Francis and Mary Ann Hutchinson of Doocarrick, Cootehill, Co. Cavan, and was a member of an Orange Lodge there.
He immigrated to Canada, and enlisted in November 1915 in Victoria, British Columbia. He served in the 67th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry where he saw action at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette in September 1916.
He then joined the 2nd Tramways Company of the Canadian Railway Troops, whose job it was to construct, maintain and operate the trench tramways system. It was whilst carrying out maintenance on the Cambrai Road the company were heavily shelled, and Staff Sergeant Hutchinson was killed on 9 September 1918.
He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in June 1918.

Private Robert Watson
Robert Watson was the son of William and Esther Watson of Convoy, Co. Donegal.
He and two of his brothers, Samuel, and William, enlisted in the 11th Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
He and his brothers fought at the Somme, and both Samuel and William lost their lives on the opening day. Robert Watson continued to serve until the war ended but was wounded on three occasions in three different battles: Thiepval Wood, Cambrai, and Ypres.
He was a member of Raphoe LOL No. 1921 and Thiepval Memorial LOL No. 1005.
Corporal Isaac Coard, MM
Isaac Coard served with the Irish Guards and in May 1918 was awarded the Military Medal for taking a German machine gun and the crew of nine single handed.
He was the son of Robert Coard of Lisburn and had been wounded at the Somme in September 1916.
He was Deputy Master of Deneight LOL No. 756 and had been a section commander in the South Antrim Regiment UVF.

Privates John, James, and Samuel Donaldson
John (26), James (23), and Samuel Donaldson (21), were sons of Mary and the late John Donaldson of Ballyloughan, Comber, County Down. They enlisted together, their service numbers were in sequence, and served with 'B' Company, 13th (Service) Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles (County Down).
They died side by side at Thiepval on the first day of the battle.
The brothers were all members of Comber Old Standard LOL No. 567 and are commemorated on their roll of honour.

Private Hugh Tanner
Hugh Tanner was from Donaghadee and was born in 1875. He was Secretary of LOL No. 693 in Belfast, and in 1909 was presented with a pocket watch. He carried this watch with him when he fought with the 109th Brigade of the 36th (Ulster) Division at the Somme.
Hugh Tanner went on to become manager of Distillery Football Club and manager/trainer of the Northern Ireland squad in the 1920s. He was also a Managing Director of Cairnes Ltd. Brewery, which had warehouses at Oxford Street in Belfast.

Rifleman Robert Walker
Robert Walker was the son of Robert and Mary Walker of Parkhead, Ballymena and a member of LOL No. 474.
He served with the 13th Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles and was killed in action on 1 September 1916.
In a letter written to Walker's parents, Lieutenant Ellison said of him: "He was one of the best of our men, a splendid soldier, keen and tireless in his work and never showed the least fear, even when engaged in such dangerous work as patrolling no-man's land. Last night, I was ordered to take a patrol out into no-man's land to examine the enemy's positions and your son and ten others came with me....
"His death must have been absolutely painless as such a wound produces absolute loss of feeling. Immediately he was hit I crawled over to him and he just had time to whisper 'I'm dying sir' before all was over. We were all at that time about 200 yards from our own lines and under heavy fire. I called for three volunteers from the party to help me carry him in, and it speaks splendidly for the esteem in which he was held that every man in the party wanted to help though it meant crossing 200 yards of open ground, under heavy fire" Ballymena Observer, 1 September 1916.

More stories of the contribution made by Orangemen can be viewed at www.goli.org.uk/somme

ORANGE NEWS

Orange Institution commemorates Somme anniversary



On the 1st July, at war memorials around the Province, Acts of Remembrance will take place to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

A battle fought along a 15-mile front that involved 11 Divisions walking through no-man's land to capture the German trenches.

Around 7.30am, whistles blew to signal the start of the attack and the soldiers went over the top.

The 36th (Ulster) Division had been given the task of taking the Schwaben Redoubt, one of the most strongly defended positions along the German lines.

The Ulster Division, men from the hills of Donegal - the Fermanagh lakes; from the fishing ports of County Down; men from the farms and hamlets of Tyrone, Cavan, Monaghan; the Maiden City; boys from the County Armagh, from Sandy Row, the Shankill and Ballymacarrett won fame and glory for their heroic exploits at the Somme.

King George V said of their actions: 'the men of Ulster have proved how nobly they fight and die ...'.

Sadly, many did die.

The Battle holds a special place in the hearts and minds of Ulster people - it became part of their DNA.

The fact that the battle commenced on the original date of the Battle of the Boyne, 1st of July, gave it extra significance to the many Orangemen who fought, some wearing their sash.

The Orange Institution tributes for those who served and sacrificed commenced with the laying of a poppy wreath at Schomberg House at 7am, by the former Assistant Grand Master Raymond Spiers.

Simultaneously, Acts of Remembrance occurred at four other war memorials in east Belfast by members of Ballymacarrett District No 6, hosts of the longest running Battle of the Somme anniversary parade.

The District Master Sammy Sharkie was present at Strandtown War Memorial, Belmont Road, where the annual parade traditionally stops each year for a short service.

The County Grand Master of Belfast Spencer Beattie will lead the County commemoration at the Cenotaph at Belfast City Hall.

These Acts of Remembrance will be repeated throughout the day by Counties, Districts and Lodges across the country.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning – we will remember them.



Innocent victims remembered with wreath laying ceremony

The East Belfast Historical and Cultural Society was due to hold its Annual Remembrance Parade, with 2020 marking the 50th anniversary of innocent civilians killed by the IRA after the Whiterock Parade in 1970.

The event was intended to be particularly big this year to mark the milestone anniversary. The Annual Remembrance Service has been an intended comfort to the families for years and always receives the support and participation of Ballymacarrett Orange District No 6 and Black District No 4 in addition to local bands and ABOD clubs. Due to social distancing, this year's event had to be reduced to a wreath laying ceremony and service at the memorial to the victims on East Belfast's Newtownards Road, which took place on Saturday, 27th June, 2020 at 7pm.

The local Orange District Chaplain and Grand Lodge Secretary Rev. Mervyn Gibson conducted the service and, despite poor weather and a deliberate decision to not advertise the event, a reasonable socially distanced crowd still turned out signifying the continued hurt and significance this attack still has for many in East Belfast.







ORANGE NEWS

Co Fermanagh Grand Lodge remembers the sacrifice made by Brethren during the Troubles

Throughout the course of the Troubles, many members of the Orange Order made the supreme sacrifice in the defence of our civil and religious liberty.

Each year County Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge sets aside a Sunday afternoon in May to parade to Church and take time to remember those Brethren who paid the supreme sacrifice in holding the line against a concerted terrorist campaign.

Sadly, the Memorial Parade and Service could not take place this year, due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

Members and their families always take this opportunity to remember the quiet determination of those who served in the RUC, UDR, and Royal Irish Home Service, in helping to bring an end to the IRA's terrorist campaign.

Without the commitment and sacrifice of the 31 members of the Institution remembered, and indeed many others within our community, Northern Ireland would be a much worse place today.

Each would require a thousand words and more to record an adequate tribute to their dedication to duty, the love of their God and country, the love for their families, and the way in which that love was returned.

We owe these men a debt of gratitude that cannot be measured and remember also those members of the Regular Army who served here, many of whom also paid the supreme sacrifice.

And so, in the days ahead, our thoughts and prayers are very much with the families of our Brethren, who gave their lives to maintain peace and stability, and a heritage which we cherish so much as members of the Orange Order.

Those of our members who served in the Royal Ulster Constabulary the Ulster Defence Regiment, and the Royal Irish Home Service, owe a great debt of gratitude to the wives, husbands, children, and wider family circles, for the support that they gave. They too were often exposed to danger on a daily basis, so many having to carry on after the loss of a loved one.

The wife of a UDR Soldier once said: "It was always a relief to hear the latch opening, and to know he was home safe."

Our faith gives us a bearable future to look forward to. Many say we must move on and put the past to one side. Yes, we have to move on, time dictates this, but in doing so we must effectively deal with the past.

Other things like justice, and telling our story, play a part in dealing with the past, but our faith is the main stay.

However, in dealing with all this we must always remember. It is important that we never forget the sacrifice that these Brethren have made, in order that we can look forward to a peaceful future in Northern Ireland.

On Sunday 31st May, the County Grand Master, Deputy County Grand Master, County Grand Secretary and County Grand Treasurer accompanied by the Assistant Grand Master, laid a wreath at the Cenotaph in Enniskillen in their memory.

This is done each year as the Memorial Parade makes its way to St Macartin's Cathedral for the afternoon Memorial Service.





A prayer from the County Grand Chaplain, Wor. Bro. Rev. Rodney Beacom

Our loving heavenly Father, praise honour and glory belongs to the Sovereign Lord and King of the universe, the one in whom we live and move and have our being.

We thank You, that in a time when life is so different to what it used to be just a few months ago, we can come before the Eternal God who is rich in his mercy, grace and love, the Living God of all comfort and compassion.

We pray for those who mourn as we remember the sacrifice of loved ones. We pray that in your grace You will be a Father to the fatherless and a Husband to the widow. Comfort and uphold the broken-hearted and in the loneliness and emptiness of life, help us to remember the great and sure hope there is in the risen Saviour, Jesus Christ. Help us Lord to remember that we too must all appear before the Judge of all the earth and our only hope is in Christ alone. So, we pray, for the sake of Jesus who gave Himself upon the Cross of Calvary for our sins, and by the power of the Holy Spirit draw us ever closer unto Yourself in repentance and in faith. And may we, heavenly Father, rejoice in the love of Christ as we look forward to that Day when there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, that Day when in Christ all things will be made new, in the sure hope of the life to come, in Jesus name we pray.

Amen.

AROUND THE LODGES



Errol and Elaine Thompson about to go on a delivery to the Mountjoy area.


Gareth Lyons prepares to make a delivery to the Reaghan area.


Sammy McKinley with a delivery to go to the Fireagh area.


Aubrey Hawkes is ready to set off with a delivery to the Edenderry area.


Niall Colhoun about to go on a delivery to the Mountjoy area.


Raymond King with meals destined for the Gillygooley Area.

Omagh District celebrates 1,000 meal milestone!

Omagh District Orange Lodge has been busy over the past number of weeks providing hot meals to the elderly and most vulnerable people within the community.

Thanks to funding from the Community Foundation and donations from members of the local Lodges, the District has been able to supply a free, hot nutritious meal to over 180 people every Friday.

A spokesperson from the District said: "As a District Lodge we thought, what could we do or provide for all those in the community who are unable to get out owing to Covid-19? After asking around, people said that they would like a hot, ready-made meal.

"Initially, we anticipated approximately 70-80 meals per week, but our numbers have been over 180 meals, prepared, cooked and delivered each Friday.

"A huge 'Thank You', must go to the ladies who prepare and cook these meals. Dorothy and June, who are both furloughed cooks from a local hotel and Sarah, Barbara, and Karen, who are all in the catering industry. Their commitment and knowledge has been invaluable.

"Preparation starts on a Thursday evening, and all meals are cooked in Killycurragh Hall on Friday morning. Members from each Lodge then come and collect the dinners and deliver them to the people's doors in their area.

"All in all, this has proved to be a great community effort by all involved, and it has been greatly appreciated by all that receive the meals and a great rapport has been built up between everyone over the past six weeks."


Grand Master Edward Stevenson with a fresh pre-packed homemade dinner ready for delivery.


Kyle Swann delivering dinner to his Granny Milly Swann from Killycurragh.


Above: Cooks Sarah Beckett and Dorothy Hawkes have prepared 1000 meals over the weeks for Omagh District.
Below: Kyle and Betty Hawkes, Killycurragh, receiving their dinners from Grand-daughter Zara Hawkes.



The District intends continuing this service until after the 12th July 2020.

The spokesperson continued: "We recently reached 1,000 meals and to mark this Grand Master Bro. Edward Stevenson called in to congratulate everyone.

"Many people only see the Orange Order when out on parade, but they now see a whole new side to our Order. We are one of the largest community groups in Northern Ireland, with Lodges all over the country, in every townland.

"As a Christian organisation, we do a lot of good work which often goes unnoticed or unreported. However, when Covid-19 struck, the Orange Order has been very much to the fore, by helping all in the community.

"We as a District Lodge appeal and encourage all our members and supporters to help Co. Tyrone Grand Orange Lodge in raising £10,000 for three worthy causes, which are; Aware NI, St John Ambulance and Frontline Workers of the NHS, by walking 5 mile and donating to our Just Giving Page, which can be accessed through www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/cotyroneorangeappeal."

Photographs can be sent through WhatsApp to 07513030398, of your participation in this initiative.

AROUND THE LODGES






Food hampers delivered by Aughanfatten LOL 1184

Braid District Lodge, Aughafatten LOL 1184, were busy recently as they delivered food hampers to Lodge recipients around the area. The promotion for Widows and Widowers was organised in co operation with the Braid District LOL 18. Worshipful Master of Aughafatten LOL 1184 Bro. Bill Smyth was on hand to personally deliver and greet all those who received a hamper. The promotion was greatly received by all who were visited. Bills son Joel accompanied his father to record the event.





Cookstown District supporting frontline workers

Members of Cookstown District No 3 have been busy providing PPE to both community nursing teams, and to Care Homes within their local area.

Bro. Jim McConnell, who was a tailor to trade, has been making scrubs for hospitals. These were received by Dawn Emerson who is organising the pillowcase appeal for scrub bags at Craigavon Hospital.

District Officers handed over PPE to care staff working in the community. Glen Espie BEM, District Master, was delighted to hand over PPE to staff at Weavers House care home.

The District would thank Bro. Ronnie Hamilton, who donated PPE to the District which was shared out with other care homes.

A cheque for £500 was presented by District Master Glen Espie BEM to the local community HUB, which is proving an excellent service to the less advantaged in our community.

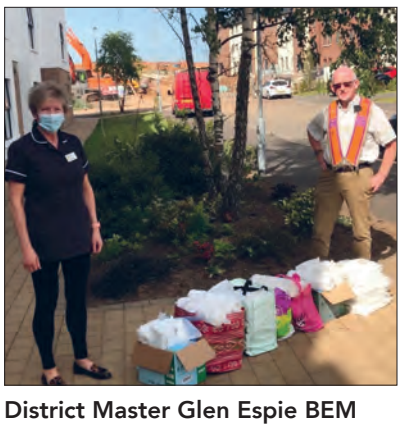
Food parcels and prescriptions have been delivered on a daily basis by Bro. Alan Gourley, Bro. Trevor Wilson, Bro. David McWilliams, Bro Norman Espie BEM, the husband and wife team Bro. Drew and Victoria Stewart and the father and son team Bros Jeffery and Jason Lamont.

A spokesman added: "This work is ongoing and we as an Institution are community based and doing our best to provide a service throughout this Covid-19 emergency to those that are disadvantaged and really appreciate this help."



District Master Glen Espie BEM presents a cheque for £500 to The Hub.


Bro. David McWilliamson and Bro. Trevor Wilson.


District Master Glen Espie BEM handing over PPE to Weavers Care Home, donated to the District by Bro. Ronnie Hamilton


Bro Jim McConnell, with scrubs he made for hospital staff.


Dawn Emerson receiving pillow cases from Orange Brethren for Scrub Appeal bags at Craigavon Hospital.


Bro. Jeffery and Bro. Jason Lamont.


Bro. Norman Espie BEM.


Husband and wife team of Victoria and Bro. Drew Stewart

ORANGE NEWS



Taylorstown Temperance LOL 701

Taylorstown Temperance LOL 701 was delighted to present care packs to staff at Glenkeen House and Drummal House Care Homes. The care packs were presented by Bro. Roy McNeilly, Secretary, and Bro. Brian McNeilly, Worshipful Master. Included in the pictures are staff members from each care home and Eddy Kerr, Operations Manager for Hutchinson Care Homes.





Lurgan Ladies District No. 1

The good work of Lurgan Ladies District No 1 continues as Sis. Karen Mills-McNally, Worshipful District Mistress, and District Treasurer Sis. Mary Duke present Abbeyfield care home with some groceries as the Orange family continue to do their best to help those who are at the front of the effort to protect our community during the Covid-19 response.



Food parcel deliveries by members of Aughlish LOL 74 and Aughlish Ulster Scots Group. Many thanks to the volunteers who gave of their time to help people in our community. Though this initiative has ended we are still here for people.



Colin Glasgow, Committee Member; with Cllr Meta Graham, Deputy Chair of Mid Ulster District Council; and Mark Glasgow, Deputy Master.

PPE distributed by members of Montober LOL 661

Montober Orange Lodge 661 of Cookstown District Number 3 had applied for the CSWAN Covid-19 Small Grant for PPE and was awarded funding which was used to purchase PPE.

In total the Lodge has prepared over 100 individual PPE packages that will be delivered to as many people in the community focusing on the vulnerable first. The PPE purchased consists of hand sanitizer, soap, gloves and masks.

With the 12th of July parades cancelled this year, the lodge decided it would be stepping out to help out in the fight against Covid-19. Members were delighted to have the Deputy Chair of Mid Ulster District Council Cllr Meta Graham take the time and see the work the lodge has been doing over the past few weeks.

Worshipful Master Bro Jim Black said: “One of the core values of the Orange Order is civic duty and responsibility and the Lodge was very keen to do its part in helping the fight against coronavirus.”

Deputy Master Bro Mark Glasgow added: “The enthusiasm and motivation for this project was great by members and we as an Orange Lodge were not going to shy away from doing our bit.”

ORANGE NEWS



Rathfriland District delivering PPE



Worshipful District Master of Rathfriland District No 3 Bro. Joseph B Moorhead, Deputy District Master Bro. Mark Graham and District Chaplain Bro. Harry Baxter have been delivering more PPE around the local area. Among those to receive PPE were Rathfriland Manor, Rathfriland Health Centre, Rathmourne Care Agency, the Peacehaven and Ballyward Surgery.



Cheque for Hospice

Presenting a cheque for £1,000 to Rev. Matthew Hagan, Chaplin to Southern Area Hospice with Bernie Byrne (fund raiser) Ian Freeburn D.C.G.M; Tom Marshall, C.G.M, John Clarke, C.G.T. on behalf of County Armagh Grand Royal Arch Purple Chapter.



District Officers and members of Castlewellan District LOL No12 and Sir Knts. of Castlewellan RBDC No 3 collecting food parcels at Dundrum Orange Hall from Nigel Hazzard and his daughter, Darcie, of Castle Farm Fresh who prepared the parcels.

Castlewellan District continues work to help elderly and vulnerable

At the end of May, members of Castlewellan District LOL No 12 and Sir Knts of Castlewellan District RBDC No 3 gathered at the Evelyn Downshire Memorial Orange Hall in Dundrum to collect food parcels for distribution to its vulnerable/elderly members, widows and others within the local community.

The District would wish to express its appreciation to Nigel Hazzard and his staff at Castle Farm Fresh who supplied the food parcels which were then augmented by small quantities of sanitizers and face masks.

The Castlewellan District Covid-19 Campaign has set up a Facebook page which contains a donation section to facilitate members, friends and indeed anyone who might wish to contribute to its work.

To date there has been a great response however much more is needed as there are many in the community in need of assistance now and probably many more as the time passes.



Castlewellan District Master Bro. Victor Morrow accepting a food parcel from Bro. John Smyth, PDM on behalf of Bro. Amos Cromwell of LOL 356.

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One of our team Christoper Wallace helping to Supply PPE for the Orange Order

Box of 50 3 Ply Face Masks From £25
Automatic Hand Sanitiser stations Available
Hand Sanitiser Available small/bulk



FFP2 KN95 Masks also available
A must for Orange Halls, Church Halls etc.
75% Alcohol, Made in Northern Ireland

For product pricing and information email please@equippe.us or call 078 210 65283

PULPIT

by Rev. Ian McClean





WHAT HAPPENED DURING LOCKDOWN?

Since 17th March all church buildings have been closed. Public worship as we know it has been forbidden.
We can no longer meet together to glorify God, to 'encourage one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs,' to engage in corporate prayer, to hear God's Word read, explained and applied to our lives or to stand together to receive the benediction. It is strange.
It is not the first time this has happened. 2606 years ago the city of Jerusalem fell (586 BC) and the people of Judah (the southern kingdom) were carried off into Babylon. (2 Kings 25) Cut off from the temple at Jerusalem, they could no longer worship God as their forefathers had done. Just listen to them. (Psalm 137) 'By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung our lyres... How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land.'
For 70 years they were unable to return to the temple worship.
What did the Hebrew people do during this 'lockdown'? While we do not have a comprehensive report of the exiles' way of life in Babylon, we can learn from the faithfulness of three of their number.
Daniel was a young man of outstanding ability, so much so that he rose to the very top of the Babylonian civil service – and yet he never abandoned his faithfulness to God. Indeed, as we all know, the testimony of his life has been recorded in Scripture as the very epitome of what a believer should be. Truly, Daniel was a man of prayer.
Ezekiel was God's messenger among the captives, rebuking them for their sin and comforting them with God's promise of salvation. As the result of his ministry during those difficult years not only did many of the people of Juda change in spiritual outlook, but throughout the centuries many have been blessed by the record of his visions of God's salvation.
Esther was a simple Jewish girl who, through neither design nor desire on her part, became queen and, by her obedience to God and her people, saved the whole of her race.
Difficult days, but days in which God, in a remarkable way, used his faithful people for the blessing, not only for their own people, but for the whole world wherever His Word is known.
As we recall what some of the Hebrew people did during the 'lockdown,' we do well to ask – what can we do? Thank God we have lots of opportunity to sit under gospel ministry. Very many of our churches hold 'virtual services' on the internet. You can watch, not only the service from your own church, but many other churches as well. I know a couple who watch a different service each night of the week. We praise God as we hear of many who haven't been to church for years, who now listen with interest. A colleague tells of a young man who has come to faith in Christ as the result of an internet service. Who knows but as a result of the present difficulty God may raise up a Daniel, or an Ezekiel, or an Esther. Those who are the Lord's people – pray for revival!
At last the 'lockdown' of the exiles was lifted. (2 Chronicles 36) Did the Hebrew people all rush back to Jerusalem, to the temple worship? Some 40,000 Jews returned in 538 BC. (Ezra 1&2) It was eighty years before some others returned (this was a much smaller number) (Ezra 7&8) and then 13 years later some more. (Nehemiah ch2) No doubt there were reasons why some were unable to go at first. But those who did return, while they encountered many difficulties, found God's blessing and became a blessing to the whole world. How can we say that? It was to this people 400 years later that Jesus was born. (Matthew ch 1, Luke ch 3) Through them, the Saviour of the World came. (Isaiah 9)
It has to be noted that many others in exile had become accustomed to life without the worship of God and they, and their descendants, never returned. They rejected the Lord and the great opportunity He offered them.
What are you doing during lockdown? Will you respond to the Gospel call? And, when it's all over, will you, like the people of Ezra and Nehemiah, return to worship God and to help rebuild the walls of Jerusalem?



Kilroot True Blues LOL 1544



Members of Kilroot True Blues LOL 1544 have been very busy during the current Covid-19 pandemic. Deputy Master Bro. Tony Rainey reports: "We have been delivering grocery hampers to the elderly and vulnerable and also delivered over 100 meat parcels.
"Our bretheren, from their own money, bought 60 visors and items of PPE which was then delivered to local nursing homes."

AROUND THE LODGES

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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Blue Banner Total Abstinence LOL 781 presents PPE to frontline workers





Blue Banner Total Abstinence L.O.L. 781 Donaghadee recently donated supplies of gloves, face masks, hand sanitiser and protective visors to local care homes, sheltered housing and the local health centre. The Worshipful Master Bro. Carson Ferris felt it important that the Lodge play it's part in helping combat the spread of Covid-19 in the local community, especially amongst the most vulnerable. The Brethren of LOL 781 donated money which was used to buy disposable gloves, face masks and visors. Copeland Distillery kindly donated some of their locally produced hand sanitiser, which the Lodge then divided up into 100ml bottles to help ensure as many people benefited as possible. The gloves and face masks were donated to local Abbeyfield sheltered housing and Edgewater Care Home with some of the hand sanitiser being given to Abbeyfield and Imperial sheltered housing. The Lodge also donated 20 protective face visors to Donaghadee Health Centre for use by the staff who have done a wonderful job of looking after the community in very trying times. The Lodge would like to thank and congratulate all those people within its local community of Donaghadee who have kept working in local businesses to ensure they were able to get essential supplies and also to other local organisations who have volunteered to help those in need throughout these very difficult and trying times. Donaghadee has proved once again what wonderful community spirit there is in the town by coming together to look out for each other and long may it continue even after this current emergency is over.





Antrim District No 13

Antrim District LOL No 13 officers, District Secretary Bro. Sandy McLuskie and District Lecturer Bro. Ken Williamson, distributing items of PPE to Massereene Manor and Rosedale Nursing Home.

AROUND THE LODGES



Markethill District LOL No 10 have been working away in the background continually during the current crisis, doing whatever it can to help the local community. Brethren handed over more PPE to St John Ambulance. Pictured are District Deputy Master David Alexander, District Master Stephen McCammon, Alan Irwin from St John Ambulance, District Lecturer Ivan Ross and District Secretary Lewis Singleton.



Members of Magherafelt District have been working hard and would like to thank the band of helpers, including WLOL 78 and JWLOL 17, for all their efforts in our District delivery. The delivery included 100 bags of potatoes; 100 bags of onions; 100 bags of bananas; 600 boxes of eggs; 100 bags of various literature, including details of the Orange Order. The District would like to thank RDC, CWSAN, CFNI, USCN and the PSNI all for their help. Finally, a big thank you to all from the District officers.



Senior Officers of County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge presented PPE to Holywell Hospital Antrim, as part of the ongoing endeavours of Orangeism supporting essential services in the local community.
County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge decided to support Mental Health Services at Holywell Hospital in Antrim and their contribution was greatly appreciated by the Hospital.

The PPE supplies were purchased from Sir. Knight and Bro. Harold McCloy, of Village Blinds, based in the Pennybridge Industrial Estate in Ballymena. Pictured are Bro. Christopher Elliott (County Grand Treasurer), Craig Green (Holywell Hospital) and Right Worshipful Bro. Maurice Kirkwood (County Grand Master)
County Grand Secretary Bro. William Thompson also attended the presentation.

More pictures of the work of Lodges and District can been found on the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Facebook page.



Portadown District LOL No 1 recently presented PPE equipment to the Treatment Room of Portadown Health Centre. This equipment was sourced by the County Armagh Grand Orange Lodge. Pictured with three treatment Nurses are Wor. Bro Darryl Hewitt District Master, second right, and Deputy District Master Wor. Bro Nigel Dawson, right.



Sister Heather Chambers, Worshipful District Mistress, and Sister Myrtle Carberry, District Chaplain of Armagh Ladies District Lodge No.2, presenting Ambulance Personnel based in Armagh with a donation for their dedication and all that they do for the community, especially during the coronavirus epidemic. The donation was very much appreciated.

ORANGE NEWS

Platform: Kenny Donaldson, Innocent Victims United

There can be no further dilution of the Victims' Pensions legislation

The Provisional IRA and their political annex have made a career out of either breaking the law or repeatedly challenging the law.

They now have the audacity to suggest to the innocent victims' community that they should be quiet and simply suck up the 2006 Victim and Survivor Order which is not even a law but rather an order for the operations of the Victims Commission. The impact of that Order has been the empowerment and emboldening of former terrorists and/or criminals being treated as victims.

We campaigned for the exclusion of those who committed acts of terror within the years of 'The Troubles,' this was acknowledged in legislation through the 'no fault of their own clause' and it is further protected through the arrangements of the adjudication panel who will examine the circumstances of complex cases and determine whether an award is appropriate or not.

The principle that Pensions should not be paid to those who were embroiled in terror and/or criminal voice must remain, there can and should not be dilution.



Picture shows the launch of SEFF's Covenant with seriously injued victims/survivors in2018.

The next steps must be; the appointment of Justice as the administrative department, the opening of the scheme and the processing of applications which are open and shut cases of innocents, perpetrators of violence must not be allowed to delay the process; guidelines and policy to deal with those cases can follow in due course.

Let's be clear; this Pension (VPS) is an acknowledgement for those who have been seriously injured as a result of terrorism or criminal violence, who themselves were not perpetrators. Those who were embroiled in terror and criminal violence continue alike everyone else to have access to the generous and expansive health and welfare services provided by the UK State - they are not disadvantaged.

The Provisional IRA and all other terror organisations who have extorted finance from the community through a wide range of criminal enterprises can cough up and compensate "their soldiers' who they sent out to carry out heinous crimes against their fellow neighbours.

Related issue

This matter is a watershed moment and the UK Government must hold its nerve and finish the job it has started. Ultimately this is the first departure the UK Government has agreed from the politically and morally reprehensible definition of a victim, as laid out in the 2006 Order.

We have been clear that there must be a new UK-wide Definition of Victim/Survivors of terrorism which renders the current definition obsolete.

We have always accepted that terrorists/other perpetrators of Troubles related crime and their families may well have psychological, emotional and other needs but NEVER should this grouping of people been provided with UK State cover that they could be supported as "victims".

Conferences and other functions have been held over the years where widows of innocent victims were in the same room as perpetrators/people who had actually committed murder - that was the impact of the Blair Government's "inclusive" definition.

A further impact has been the appointment of those guilty of serious 'Troubles related' crimes being able to sit on a Victims Forum - forcing others to then have to leave and the largest majority of victims/survivors of terrorism not wishing to sit on that Forum because it is not simply a forum for victims.

This is explained away as being "inclusive" but it's the polar opposite - innocent victims in their thousands are forced to self-exclude from sitting on such a Forum because they will not forsake The Truth.

Imagine a situation where victims of domestic violence, of burglary, of rape or any other heinous crime were expected and/or forced to be spoken of in the same breath as the perpetrators of those crimes, that resources intended for their support were also provided to perpetrators and where those individuals were being asked to consider those who committed the harm also being viewed as victims.

The 2006 Victim and Survivor Order has been manipulated and misused by those empowered to exploit it - enough is enough, there must be a re-calibration of our Society.

It needs understood and acknowledged that in the context of The Northern Ireland Troubles and irrespective of grievances held whether real or perceived that there was never justification for the use of criminal violence in the furtherance of or defence of a political objective.

The Pension for the seriously injured MUST be delivered NOW for the innocents who adhered to the law, who did not injure themselves by their own hand, who did not join illegal terrorist organisations, in-so-doing committing crime or who as members of the security forces did not dishonour the code and engage in criminal-based activities.

UHRW launches campaign over scheme failure

By Axel Schmidt
Advocacy Manager
Ulster Human Rights Watch (UHRW)





There is something deeply troubling about the failure to get the Victims' Compensation Scheme up and running by now.

Since legislation was passed all the way back in January, nothing, simply nothing, has happened to prepare for the planned start of the scheme on the 29th May.

No Government Department was selected. No Panel was chosen. No processes were put in place.

The Northern Ireland Executive approved a spend of £2.5 million for the operation of the scheme, but there's still no date set for its implementation.

That is why Ulster Human Rights Watch (UHRW) is embarking on a short campaign in partnership with the 'News Letter' aimed at keeping this scandalous situation under the spotlight.

Innocent victims are speaking out with a strong voice and their message is reaching the ear of Government in London. Politicians supportive of what we are doing are also putting their weight behind the newspaper campaign.

We find ourselves in a grubby, murky and wholly reprehensible situation. Our campaign will bluntly tell Prime Minister Boris Johnson that he needs to intervene to resolve this impasse over the scheme.

Innocent victims of terrorism are as pawns in an increasingly bitter political dispute. It is a disgrace. There is no justification for disagreements when the simple duty of the Executive Office is simply to implement the law. Then tying the delay to funding for summer school meals for school children means we have sunk to a new low.

The disappointment of hundreds of Orange Order members who suffered physical and psychological injuries at the hands of terrorists is palpable. They, and others, feel let down. Abandoned. Utterly deflated. This delay is cruel and heartless.

What should happen next?

In our view, the scheme should be taken out of the hands of a squabbling Stormont Executive and handed over to the national Government. Because this scheme was enshrined in legislation at Westminster, this is clearly a UK initiative.

There is a moral imperative to end this shambolic state of affairs. The time to do that is now.

ORANGE NEWS

Orangemen on the frontline

Brethren who have been working in key roles during the fight against Covid-19 take time out from their busy schedules to tell The Orange Standard of their experiences.

Dr David Foster is a General Practitioner with special interest in Mental Health in Scotland. He is a member of Ecclesville LOL 34, in Fintona District.

One Monday in March everything changed for General Practice in Scotland. What had, the week prior, been a normal routine of seeing most patients face to face in the practice, with some visits to homes and nursing homes, changed dramatically overnight. We had been following the news of Covid-19 as it arrived in Europe, then the south of England, and made its way north, but yet the need for change seemed to happen rapidly.

Suddenly we were doing the majority of our contact with people by telephone which brought about new challenges, not just to the new limitations on examining people, but also our ability to present a friendly face, and communication to our patients now was faced with the challenges of not being able to see how patients react – the evidence is that the majority of how anyone communicates is through body language and tone of voice, so taking away some of that made it challenging.

Thankfully the vast majority of the patients I have encountered have been very understanding of these new challenges that we are facing, and have been willing to work along with our teams to assist us to continue to provide the services that we are able to. Over the space of the last three months these new ways of working have became almost normal to us, and I feel that we have adapted to this crisis in a way that is working for the benefit of our patients.

We had been following the news of Covid-19 as it arrived in Europe ... but yet the need for change seemed to happen rapidly.

While my main role is that of a GP, I also work for the local community mental health team, and again there have been challenges from the changes to this. Face to face contact has again changed to telephone contact, and Covid-19 has brought great stress and worry to many people with mental health issues such as anxiety. It has became apparent though how resilient a lot of our patients have been to the stresses of this time, and the sense of community in local areas has been a big part of that – clapping for the NHS and key workers on Thursday nights, and people having more contact with their neighbours, among many others.

We would hope that with the reducing number of COVID-19 cases that one day we will be able to welcome more people back to our practices, and get back to some form of normality, but currently we just need to be patient.

In the mean time please remember that despite the restrictions, your GP and other health care providers such as Emergency departments are still available for you if you require care.



Duane Funston is an Emergency Medical Technician based at Omagh with 20 years' service. He is a member of Blacksessiagh LOL 226 Omagh District.

When Coronavirus first came to light it blew up very quickly for me.

As an Emergency Medical Technician, I found myself right on the frontline.

Working closely with a paramedic we were getting calls to go to people and you simply didn't know what to expect.

We'd heard of Coronavirus in China but nobody here was prepared for it.

For the first month we didn't have the correct equipment to cope with call outs - but we went or were sent anyway. We either didn't have the PPE or what little PPE we did have was in short supply.

Now, when I look back, we really weren't ready for Coronavirus at all - even though it had hit China big time long before it came to us!

Now, when I look back, we really weren't ready for Coronavirus at all - even though it had hit China big time long before it came to us!

At this stage we are much better off.

We have the equipment we need, the PPE and everyone knows what to do .

In those early days the virus had a major impact on my work. The number of calls we got simply fell away - the volume just dropped. People did not want to go to hospital unless they really had too. They kept the doors closed and self-isolated.

Like most stations we get a certain number of calls from people who do not need really the services of an ambulance but have issues and call anyway. Those calls stopped which was good.

This also had a downside. You knew that when you did get a call out the chances were that the patient did have Covid-19 or certainly symptoms of it.

The precautions we had to take were significant. All the steps that had to be taken meant that calls which might have taken two hours were now taking three or even four.

If we took a patient from Omagh to hospital at Altnagelvin or Enniskillen the ambulance had to be deep cleaned before it could be put in service again. That makes sense, but if you got a call late into your 12-hour shift it could mean waiting hours before getting home. It's part of the job but it does become frustrating sometimes.



Home also brought issues. The fear of bringing the virus home was very real.

At the beginning of all this, my wife Christine, who works as a Community Psychiatric Nurse, took ill and displayed some of the symptoms.

Our four-year old daughter, Becky, also developed a cough. I called work and the advice was as expected - self isolate for two weeks.

That was a fortnight to think about it all - to think over the risks and dangers that were out there and while trying to keep other people safe we could actually be putting our family at risk.

Childcare was another issue. My daughter would get looked after by her grandparents when my wife and I were at work. But they were shielding because of their age so we had to work around looking after Becky.

In my work a lot of people were staying in the nurse's accommodation in between shifts but that wasn't an option for me with my wife working and a daughter to look after.

It has been a very difficult time but thankfully things are getting a bit better.

It has been good to see the work of the Orange Order at this time, looking out for the elderly and vulnerable in the community.

My own lodge has been active, helping to supply meals each week, and I'm aware of others making a very positive contribution at a difficult time.

News from the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland

THE ORANGE TORCH

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119 v 105)

Bannerette tribute planned for Past Grand Master

Sadly, in October last year Brother Ian Wilson, Past Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, passed away suddenly.
Ian's contribution to the Orange Order in Scotland cannot be overstated.
He dedicated a significant part of his life to the Order and achieved so much. At a very difficult time for the Orange community in Scotland, Ian, as Grand Master, took the very bold and courageous step of throwing open the doors of the Order to let others see us, to see the real Orange membership behind the newspaper headlines.
He believed in us, and our faith. He championed our cause, stood up for our community, our heritage and for each and every one of us.
He worked earnestly for his local community and kirk and will be missed by all who knew him.
Ian was a member of LOL 203 Whitburn and just before he passed away he was presented with his 50 year service medal. As a tribute to Ian, the members of LOL 203 thought it would be appropriate to commission a memorial bannerette in his honour.
Unfortunately due to the current situation, raising funds for this venture is difficult. Grand Lodge has approved this appeal to help to raise the necessary funding.
If we achieve our goal and there are any surplus funds these will be donated to the Scottish Orange Home Fund as this was a charity close to Ian's heart.
We recognise there are a lot of worthy charities looking to raise funds at the moment however we feel this is a fitting cause and no matter what the amount is every penny will be much appreciated.
Thank you in advance from the Worthy Master and Brethren of LOL 203 Whitburn.



Past Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, Bro. Ian Wilson, who passed away last year.

Alysha puts her best foot forward to raise money for Hospice

Alysha Johnstone (pictured) is 12 years old and a pupil at Hilltop Primary school in Airdrie. She is a member of Greengairs Young Covenanters Juvenile LOL 102 and Airdrie Argyle Accordion Band.
Every year, Primary 7s from North and South Lanarkshire schools take part in a "wear yellow walk" around Strathclyde Park, Motherwell, to raise money for St Andrew's Hospice in Airdrie. The event was cancelled this year due to coronavirus.
Alysha decided that she would still like to raise money and, with her mother's help, she checked what the distance of the walk was around Strathclyde Park. Alysha walked the equivalent distance in her local area, wearing yellow. She managed to raise a fantastic total of £724.48 for the hospice.
Well done Alysha!



King William III statue - Cathedral Square, Glasgow

The majestic statue of King William III sits proudly in the historical area of Glasgow at Cathedral Square.
The lead equestrian statue in Roman dress (pictured) has sat there since 1926, after being moved from the Trongate due to it being a traffic obstruction concerning its size in such a narrow location.
It has now been sited at the most suitable setting for such a monument of historical significance. Located in one of the oldest parts of the city, at the top of High Street, an area that thousands of tourists flock to each year, with many taking photographs of what is regarded as Glasgow's oldest remaining statue of prominence, since being donated to the city in 1735 by James Macrae of Orangefield in Ayrshire.
Along with other statues and monuments currently throughout the world, King William's statue has also been vandalised on two occasions and most recently been spray-painted with the acronym 'IRA'. This is of course in support of a murderous terror gang who slaughtered over 1,700 innocent people and who did not discriminate on what race, colour or creed they visited their murderous acts upon. There is, therefore, no other description that can be given to attacks on this statue other than wanton acts of sectarian hate crimes.
It should also be mentioned that the Burgh of Glasgow at the time was the first place to declare for William of Orange in Scotland when they made a declaration of him as 'Lord Protector' (rather than King) there in early 1689 and rather significantly from a Glasgow perspective, King William III was the one who introduced the right of councillors in Glasgow to select their own Bailies and Lord Provost.



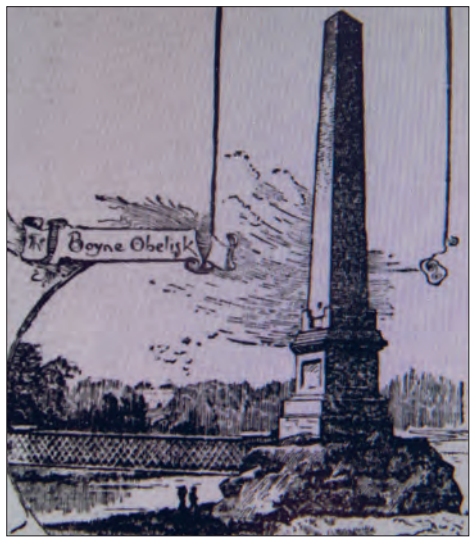
Why nations should cherish their memorials and monuments ...

History Lessons
with Dr David Hume MBE

MONUMENTS and memorials form an important part of the fabric of any society, and have an important part to play in telling the story of the nations or the communities concerned.







Above: The Boyne Obelisk from an 1890s newspaper illustration.

Above left: The gravestone of Francis Joseph Bigger. He argued the obelisk should stay. Ironically, both it and his gravestone would be blown up.

Left: Francis Joseph Bigger.

The current debate about some memorials has brought strong emotions to the fore.

History is never simple, and to treat it as such is to promote a naïve and immature view which often speaks more about those demanding removal of monuments than it does anything else.

Hence we have recently had the spectacle of mob rule in Bristol, where a statue was toppled and thrown into the harbour because it reflected the role of Edward Colston in the slave trade.

As the Prime Minister rightly pointed out afterwards, there were democratic routes to follow if there was an issue over the statue.

Deciding to assemble a mob and bring down a statue (while the forces of law and order watch on, which is another matter), is not about democratic debate. It is about determining that no other opinions count.

This is a fascist approach to history and if it is allowed, then no doubt the list of offending monuments will extend much beyond any connections to the slave trade.

Slavery was – of course – wrong. The British Empire was not perfect. But to try and undermine all aspects of that period in our history is to deny that any good came out of the era: more good came out of it than bad, of course. The Commonwealth Games is just one event which fills people with pride and part of that pride relates to the fact that all creeds and colours come together as one across the globe. We are all connected because the era of Empire passed, territories became self-governing and are proud nations in their own right.

Dismantling the history of the nation and seeking to demonize is, one suspects, part of a much bigger picture fed by shadowy groups which could never achieve their aims democratically and now seek other means.

But even if it were not so, the logic of the situation is beyond belief. The logical extension of criticism of empire is to ask Italy to remove the colosseum in Rome because of its connections to slavery and indeed the killing of Christians and slaves there.

We might as well demand the demolition of the pyramids in Egypt in order to expunge the reminders of slave labour there.

The monuments which we see in our everyday lives or holiday visits are subjective. We may not like all of them or what they represent in our view, but clearly others do like them and what they represent.

The threat to the statue of Baden Powell, founder of the Boy Scout movement, on the spurious basis that he was a Nazi sympathiser, resulted in an uproar in Poole, where thousands of people signed a petition to retain the statue.

The local council, however, said that it would be removed "so that we can properly involve all relevant communities and groups in discussions about its future, including whether a more educational presentation of his life in a different setting might be more appropriate".

The question as to how relevant some groups might be in the context of a local statue does arise, since as we know in Northern Ireland, some people can travel considerable distances to be offended.

Despite the claim by some Labour activists that the Scout founder was a Nazi sympathiser, historian Dr. Andrew Norman told the BBC that he had wanted to introduce the Scout movement to Germany but ended up being put on a Nazi death list pending the invasion of Britain because "the Germans suspected he was using scouts as spies."

MP Tobias Ellwood, hit the nail on the head when he tweeted: ""Few historical figures comply with 21st C values. Simply expunging past connections from sight won't correct wrongs or help us better learn from our past."

If we deny our history then we are undermining our right to exist as a nation; it is fair to say that without progression of history, we would not be the democratic, multi-cultural society which we are today.

The issue of contention over memorials is not new in Irish history, of course.

One of the most famous memorials to be 'removed' in that history was probably the Boyne Obelisk, which was erected in 1736 to commemorate the famous battle.

The memorial was located close to where William III crossed the river and had four panels commemorating the victory and also the Duke of Schomberg, who had been killed on the other side of the river.

In the 1890s the memorial was in some disrepair and a fund was established by Colonel Codlington of Oldbridge and Mr. Balfour of Townley Hall, who were seeking subscriptions to raise £100 towards repairs.

However, as the Home Rule debate intensified, the Boyne Obelisk became a subject of some debate, with some wanting it removed.

The Irish nationalist antiquarian Francis Joseph Bigger, a driving force in the Gaelic League and Irish language revival in Belfast and County Antrim, responded to this debate in 1919 with a measured and well-argued article in the Irish Independent.

He accepted that there was an undesirable feature to the memorial, which was the wording on the plaque referring to James II at the head of "a popish army" – which was not the language Bigger would have preferred.

But overall, Francis Joseph Bigger believed that the monument had a place on the landscape just as the battle it commemorated had a place in Irish history.

"To take down the Boyne obelisk and remove it to a more northern county would not only be a bad policy at the present juncture of our national life, but it would denude the monument of its associations and value, varied as those qualifications are. Standing where it does it tells of a momentous battle lost and won, and, what is even more, it speaks forth in its inscription the spirit of those who raised at well-nigh fifty years after the memorable event," Bigger said.

He made clear he believed it belonged to a bygone era when it was raised 'in pride and arrogance' but said "Let it remain as a monument of such an age."

"Of course it is another question whether the obelisk could be removed or not as suggested. It was raised and paid for by public subscription in the year 1736, and is, therefore, a public monument," he added.

This comment underlies the fact that in 1919 the obelisk was offered by the landowner for sale to the Tyrone War Memorial Committee, the suggestion being that it would be used as a County memorial to those soldiers from Tyrone lost in the First World War. This was not taken up at the time.

Within a few years the prospect of the monument being moved was taken off the agenda.

The practicalities ceased to have relevance after it was blown up in 1923 by around forty armed men. Rumours suggested the IRA were responsible, which was denied, and other suggestions remain that the Irish Army may have practised their demolition skills and resolved the ongoing debate.

It is not clear what Bigger thought of this, but he could hardly have approved.

The Larne Times in June 1923 remarked in relation to the explosion; "We can only guess at the motives which prompted the destruction of this landmark on the Boyne. It was in all probability hatred, not so much of King William—for all the "hate" the world today could not harm him—as it was hatred of all that he stood for and all that his memory still means to hundreds of thousands of Northern Irishmen. Some Southern people are very anxious to get the North into the Free State. Do they for a moment suppose that insult and outrage to the memory of a man who is specially venerated in Ulster will hasten that day? It is not much the destruction of the material substance that is significant in this case—it is the spirit that lay behind it," the paper said.

The irony of trying to encourage Ulster Protestants into a state where one of their most cherished landmarks was wiped away could not have been starker.

Irony often keeps company with history, and there is a final twist in this case.

Francis Joseph Bigger, an outstanding figure in Ulster cultural life, died in 1926 and was buried at Mallusk cemetery in County Antrim, where his gravestone contained an inscription in Irish.

Ironically, in 1971 loyalist paramilitaries took exception to the use of Irish and the stone was, like the Boyne Obelisk, blown up and toppled.

It is a salutatory reminder that you cannot change history and in seeking to deny it we engage in a collective self-harming which helps impoverish society as a whole.

OBSERVER

We can rightly be proud of our Order's work and support for the health service

Bro. Denis Watson, County Armagh Grand Master, said recently that the wonderful response of the Loyal Orders to helping to cope with the Covid-19 Pandemic, proved that the Orange Order is Much more than a parading organisation, writes Brian Courtney.

Bro. Watson got it spot on, as the stories and photographs showing what Orange Order members have been doing to provide money and resources to the NHS, as well as helping elderly and vulnerable members of the Order, has been praised throughout Northern Ireland.

The help given by the Loyal Orders has been cross-community, and also cross-border, as we have seen photographs of health items being presented to hospitals in Monaghan and Cavan, as well as every County in Northern Ireland.

Of course, we all miss the colourful parades and spectacle of the great Orange, Royal Black and Apprentice Boys organisations, and not just the participants, but the hundreds of thousands of spectators will also greatly miss the Twelfth parades, Scarva Day and the Relief celebrations and parade. That goes without saying, and hopefully everything will return to normal in a year's time.

But for the moment, and as long as this coronavirus disease exists, everyone must play their part, and of course that includes the members of the Loyal Orders.

We salute, and thank the many Brethren and Sisters who have played, and indeed are still playing, an important part in keeping the people of Northern Ireland safe, and protected to the utmost from the disease, and we feel a deep sense of gratitude and pride in their response to the Pandemic.

Grand Lodge has also provided excellent suggestions as to how the Orange Family and their supporters can still celebrate The Twelfth, even though parades are not taking place due to the Pandemic.

There are many ways of doing this, and District and private lodges throughout Northern Ireland have also provided positive leadership, and ideas to the Brethren about how they can celebrate with small barbecues, picnics, and family gatherings in their back gardens, as well as viewing the many video photographs of past Orange parades and events.

This is very commendable indeed.

Coronavirus has shown that NHS must receive the funding it requires

What marvellous people we have in our NHS workforce in Northern Ireland, and as the country slowly and gradually emerges from the Coronavirus Pandemic, we must never forget the magnificent service given by everyone in the Health Service.

I know that for weeks we clapped outside our houses each Thursday night in appreciation of the people who saved so many lives, and who also did all they could to help and comfort the people who lost their lives. They have been a bastion of defence against the ravages and onslaught of this terrible disease, and never ceased in their efforts to protect the people in our hospitals, while putting themselves in the front line.

I am proud that the Loyal Orders are among the organisations which contributed money and medical supplies to the NHS, and this was a continuation of the support from Orange lodges and Royal Black preceptories.

Many of our Church services have enabled collections to be made for wards in hospitals to help staff and patients, and to allied services like the Air Ambulance organisation. That will continue to be the case, and I would suggest that the financial help should also include organisations like the St John Ambulance Service, which has played its part in fighting the Pandemic.

I have had recent first-hand experience of the dedicated and committed service of consultant surgeons, doctors, nurses, auxiliary nurses, porters, cleaners and all others working in Craigavon Area Hospital and the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, and can confirm just how indebted we as a society are to our workers in the National Health Service.

We don't know how long the world will have to be on its guard against Covid-19, and must pray that there will be no repeat waves of the disease which has cost so many people their lives, and caused such grief among their families.

We must also pray that a vaccine will be discovered which can be such a key factor in defeating coronavirus.

If there is a second wave, there is no doubt that the NHS will show the same levels of dedication and commitment to dealing with this, and be in the front line of defence.

Whatever the future, there must be a resolution on the part of all our politicians at Stormont to ensure that the NHS receives the financial support to enable it to continue to be in the vanguard of our defence, not only against Covid-19, but all the many other health issues which confront Northern Ireland and its people.

The Health Minister, Robin Swann, the chief medical officer, Dr. Michael McBride, and all others who have rightly deserved our thanks for all they have done to combat coronavirus, deserve the continued support of the Northern Ireland Executive as there are many daunting challenges to be faced.

The huge waiting list of 300,000-plus for operations and consultations is unacceptable, and that is recognised by everyone in Government.

This pandemic has provided a terrible lesson of just how fragile modern society is, and how much it relies on the NHS, an organisation which has been neglected of funds and resources for far too long.

Recriminations and blame pointing is not the answer, and the best way of recognising the heroic efforts of our health workers is to ensure that the money required for meeting the many problems which have to be solved.

We must hope and pray that our political representatives will not be round wanting.

Minister Poots brings good news with tree planting plan

The recent announcement by Environment Minister Edwin Poots that it is planned to spend £80m over the next 10 years to plant eight million trees in Northern Ireland is to be welcomed.

What a positive way of celebrating the centenary of Northern Ireland by embarking on a scheme which will be of enormous benefit to the province.

It is accepted that Northern Ireland has one of the smallest percentages of land occupied by trees in Europe, and anything which seeks to correct that imbalance is surely to be welcomed.

Trees are essential in many ways to help the environment, and also improve the appearance of the landscape. Forests and woods are home to many species of wildlife, they are good from a carbon point of view and they are an attraction for tourists, as well as local people.

There is a lot of leeway to be made up before Northern Ireland narrows the gap with other countries. Only eight per cent of the province is covered by trees, compared to 15 per cent in Great Britain.

But this is a good start in the bid to increase Northern Ireland's tree percentage, and Minister Edwin Poots is to be commended for his foresight and action in this important matter.

He will need the full co-operation of the rural community and the acquisition of enough land to plant the trees – an estimated 700 hectares of land will be needed to meet the challenge.

It is a challenge worth meeting and will be a great way of launching next year's centenary celebrations.

MUSEUM NEWS



BBC NI filming Twelfth programme at Sloan's House

The "Museum of Orange Heritage" at Sloan's House, Loughgall, was pleased to host BBC Northern Ireland for some filming of their Twelfth programme which will be broadcast on 13th July morning.
As part of the filming, presenter Helen Mark interviewed renowned historian, Dr Gavin Hughes. They also interviewed Dr David Hume, Historian and former Director of Services at Grand Lodge. The photographs here show Dr Hume being interviewed by Helen Mark, BBC Presenter, at the Battle of the Diamond monument which was erected by Co Armagh Grand Orange Lodge at the battlefield site in 1995 to mark the Bicentenary of the Battle.





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ORANGE NEWS





Charities receive support from Markethill District

The Covid-19 crisis that we are now thankfully quickly emerging from placed a lot of pressures on every section of our community.
One of the forgotten parties who are experiencing particular strain is that of our charities, with their fundraising efforts for this year totally decimated.
In an effort to address this shortfall, Markethill District Loyal Orange Lodge No 10 has made three significant donations to charities with a particular local importance.

The District were very happy to recently talk to representatives from Southern Area Hospice, St John Ambulance and the Christian Institute, and to present each with a cheque for £1,000 towards their cause.
District No 10 would encourage everyone not to forget those organisations and volunteers who have worked continually for all in the community without fear or favour, and where possible, to support their efforts.



Imperial Council meeting postponed

The meeting of the Imperial Orange Council which was due to be held in Co Fermanagh next year has been postponed for 12 months.
The Executive of the Imperial Orange Council, in conjunction with the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, have decided that in the best interests of the Officers and Delegates who would be attending, it would be advisable to postpone the Council Sessions for one year until 2022.
Imperial Secretary, Wor. Bro. Mervyn Bishop explained: "This decision has been taken in view of the current situation regarding the Coronavirus pandemic which is currently rampant throughout our world.
"A number of factors were taken into consideration - age of delegates, uncertainty over travel arrangements, lack of a vaccine at this time, possible Government restrictions and the potential for pandemic spikes.
"This decision was not taken lightly, especially as in 2021 Northern Ireland will celebrate the Centenary of it's formation, and I am sure that those attending were looking forward to being here during this historic year."
It is anticipated that the Council will meet from 3rd to the 8th of July 2022. If this is the case, delegates would have the option to attend the Twelfth of July celebrations in Rossnowlagh, Co Donegal, which are to be held on Saturday, 9th of July, 2022.
Grand Master Edward Stevenson said the decision was 'understandable' given the difficulties caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.
"We live in very difficult times and the safety and well-being of everyone is of the greatest importance. The decision to cancel the meeting of the Imperial Orange Council in 2021 is disappointing but understandable at this time."

Attack on Fernisky Drumming Club property is condemned



The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland has condemned the arson attack on a large shed belonging to Fernisky Drumming Club in Co Antrim.
The building, which is situated next to Fernisky Orange Hall, was burned to the ground sometime over the weekend of 20th to the 21st of June.
A spokesperson for the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland said:
"This act of wanton vandalism and destruction of property is totally unacceptable.
"Orange halls, together with drumming clubs and band halls, are a vital resource for members of the Orange Family and often the wider community in rural areas.
"Attacks of this nature are to be condemned, particularly at a time when the entire Orange Family has been working so hard to provide help and support to the wider community during the battle with Covid-19.
"Anyone with information about this incident should report it to police immediately."

ORANGE NEWS

Nanoblock Orangemen on parade





Above: Stephen Richardson created this Nanoblock model which features a his lodge banner Maghera LOL 209.

Left: Sister Leeann Brownlee, a member of WLOL 177, sent in this great image of Nanoblock Orangemen on parade!

Tasty Twelfth treats



Lottie Nicholson made Orangemen top hats during lock-down. It's a marshmallow dipped in white chocolate (at an angle) which had been coloured orange with a little food colouring and a Malteser on top. Details were added with a chocolate icing pen. Lottie's mum Esther added: "They were lots of fun to make and delighted all who tried them!"

Craft creations!

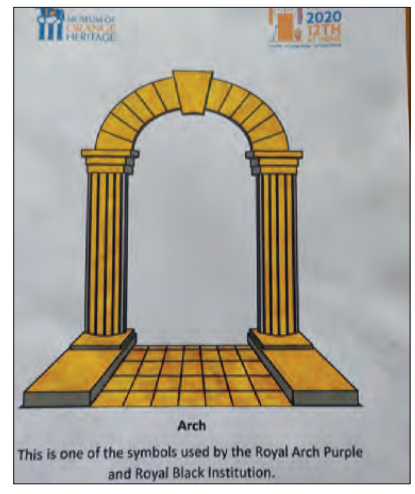


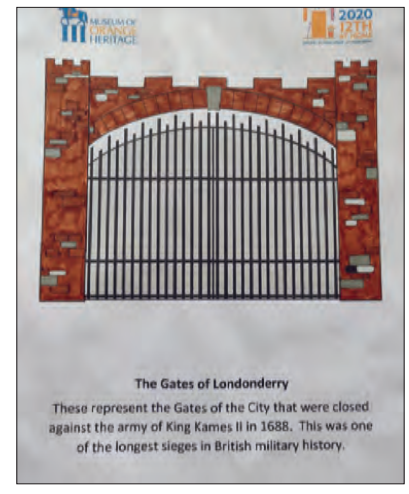




Our young crafters and colourers have been hard at work as they prepare for the 2020 12th at Home celebrations. A big thank you goes to Poppy, Lily, Emma and Daniel for sharing their work with us. If you would like to try making bunting, Orange Lilies, arches or lambeg drums visit our web page www.goli.org.uk/celebrate-12thresources







ORANGE NEWS

New buildings creating a solid foundation for the Orange Institution in Australia!

Bro. Ian Kells, Grand Secretary of the Loyal Orange Institution of New South Wales (LOINSW), reports on developments 'Down Under'

Exciting things are happening "Down Under" in the Orange Institution.
A lot of construction has occurred in many Australian States as the Orange Institution in those States have went about rebuilding or refurbishing their headquarters.
In Queensland, the Institution moved into a brand new headquarters on the 12 October 2019. The Institution in Victoria plan to move back into their refurbished headquarters later this year and recently, the Institution in South Australia refurbished their headquarters.
Here in the State of New South Wales the difficult decision was made to vacate the headquarters in Sydney after many decades and move to another location. The old building was costing a lot to maintain so the decision was made to move. A suitable site was found, but the internal configuration did not suit the needs of the Institution so it was completely gutted and rebuilding started from scratch.
After almost twelve months of rebuilding the new headquarters was Officially opened on the 19th of October 2019. A red-letter day for the Loyal Orange Institution of NSW (LOINSW) after a lot of hard work they now had a headquarters to be proud off. The complex contains the main Lodge Room, a Board Room, offices, kitchen and display areas where the history of the LOINSW dating from 1845 is displayed. There is also a self-contained apartment with view over the city of Sydney for the use of visiting members from interstate and overseas. Planning is soon to commence to create a museum on site to display one hundred and seventy five years of Orange history in NSW.
The Official Opening was conducted by Brother John Morrow, Imperial Grand Master of the Imperial Orange Council, with the dedication performed by Brother Jeffrey Hardy, Imperial Deputy Chaplain, in the presence of not only NSW members, but also high profile dignitaries including the Grand Master of New Zealand and her Officers, the Grand Masters of the States of Queensland and Victoria and their Officers. The Grand Master of the LOINSW Sister Marion Leach stated it was indeed one of the proudest days in the history of the NSW Orange Institution.



Grand Master Brother John Morrow performing the opening ceremony.

Footnote: The new headquarters has been nominated in the Master Builders Association of NSW as an entrant in their Annual Awards for building excellence, a prodigious award much sought after.



Pictures shows the main Lodge Room



Officers of the Imperial Orange Council who attended the event. Pictured, from left to right, are Brothers Ian Kells (Stewart); Charles Ferrel (Past Grand Master); John Morrow (Grand Master); Jeffrey Hardy (Deputy Chaplain); and Herbert Mailey (Auditor).

Greetings extended from the Loyal Orange Institution of Victoria

On behalf of the Loyal Orange Institution of Victoria, I would like to extend greetings to the Grand Orange Lodge of lreland and members during these challenging times of the Covid-19 outbreak.
We thank you for the communication in the Orange Standard, being presented digitally at this time, and pass on to the Editor and Committee our appreciation of the way it is being presented. We have received communication from members who also extend their appreciation of the "new-look" newspaper and the contents of recent months.
We have read and heard with concern and heartbreak how this dreadful disease has taken its toll on communities across the world and the affect it has had on the Orange Institution in the passing of loved ones and the crippling of activities and fellowship. However, we have also read and heard of the continued wonderful work of the lnstitution in providing care, food and friendship to those who are alone, confused and in desperate situations. What an opportunity for the Orange lnstitution to practice the virtues on which it is founded in showing concern and love to others and in proclaiming the Gospel message. At times like this our lnstitution can be a real witness in our confused and needy communities worldwide.
In many respects we in Victoria, and indeed the other States and Territories, have not faced the heartbreak of other communities around the world because of the wise strategies implemented by our Prime Minister over these difficult months to curb the disease up to this point. We have endured unprecedented restrictions as well, but we are slowly having these restrictions withdrawn and we are praying that it won't be too long that we will come out of these difficult times. The Institution in Victoria continues to function with video conferencing being the tool for meetings and fellowship. We continue to pray for the members and families in Ireland and throughout the world that all will know of God's peace and His provision at this time.

Yours Fraternally,
Grand Master Rt. Wor. Bro. Jeff Hardy

ORANGE NEWS

Witherow LOL 1337 Brethren climb Slieve Donard with centenary flag

Two Officers from Witherow Memorial LOL 1337 (from within the same household) and a socially distanced friend from Duke of Schomberg LOL 486, climbed Slieve Donard so they could display the lodge's new centenary flag from the highest point in Northern Ireland.
They had originally hoped to do this on 22nd April, 2020, to mark the centenary of the death of Reverend William Witherow of Westbourne Presbyterian Church. As lockdown restrictions made this impossible, they instead made the climb on Coronation Day (2nd of June) and were blessed with tremendous sunshine for the 67th anniversary of the Queen's Coronation.

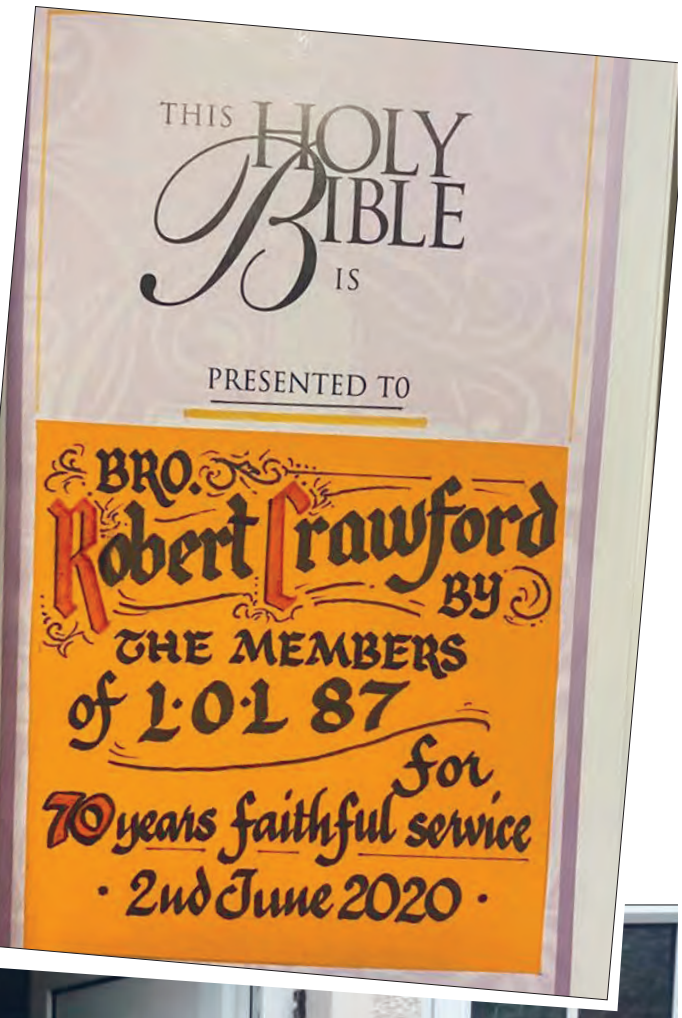


Lodge Secretary Bro. Kirk McDowell, LOL 1337, and Bro. Jonny Lindsey, of LOL 486



Lodge Secretary Bro. Kirk McDowell LOL 1337 and lodge Treasurer Bro. Ryan McDowell LOL 1337

70 years of loyal service to LOL 87 for Bro. Crawford





On their usual night of meeting, Officers from LOL 87 visited Bro. Robert Alistair Crawford to mark his 70th year as a member of the Orange Order.
In 1950, Alistair was visited by the Lodge Secretary Bro. McGuckan who told him he was to fill in a form.
When Alistair asked why, he was told his name had been proposed, seconded and agreed at the previous Lodge meeting that he could become a Member - Alistair knew nothing about it!
During his time in LOL 87, Alistair agreed to serve as Treasurer for one year - the Lodge, however, had other ideas and he retired after serving 41 years!
The Lodge looks forward to the day when the current restrictions are lifted and members can all gather to celebrate properly with Alistair.
Presenting Alistair with gifts from the Lodge are Worshipful Master Wor. Bro. Mark Callaghan; DM Wor. Bro. Derek Cauley; Chaplain Wor. Bro. Mark Irwin and Secretary Bro. Norman Edgar.







STEPPING OUT
Supporting our Marching Bands
by Quincey Dougan

Change of pace for 'First Friday'

The 'First Friday' in June in Markethill can lay claim to having hosted the largest ever marching band organised procession in Northern Ireland, indeed in Europe, having seen an incredible 107 bands participate back in 2007.
Hosts Kilcluney Volunteer Flute still organise one of the biggest parades in the Province, but this year of course, the streets were quiet and instead they turned their attention to raising much-needed funds for the Cancer Fund for Children.
One of the reasons the band chose this charity is that long-standing and well-known band member, Barry Brown, has had direct help from this local charity in recent times following his son's cancer treatment.
They launched an online campaign for the charity and to help encourage donations, the main prize was a mini replica of the bass drum the band plays at processions all over Ulster and beyond every year.
This year, instead of marshalling the thousands gathered in the town on the 5th of June, the focus went online to the culmination of the campaign, with hundreds of people turning in to watch the live draw.
The phenomenal total of £3,015 was raised via the bands efforts.



Kilcluney members Lee Coulter and Derek Williams making the charity draw live.

Loughkillygreen playing for Heroes

Loughkillygreen Accordion Band, from Newtownbutler, Co. Fermanagh, was one of many bands across the country to recognise the work of NHS staff and essential workers during the Coronavirus lockdown. On several occasions members of the band were recorded playing a selection of popular tunes in their own homes and gardens, with the videos then posted on the band's Facebook page and shared with other Marching Band related sites. The videos entitled 'Playing for Heroes' became a hit and received thousands of views and comments. Band Master Simon Wiggins said: "I'm glad we as a band have recognised our essential workers and brought some joy into people's homes, particularly the elderly during lockdown."
The members of Loughkillygreen are now making plans to ensure this year's Twelfth of July is marked in the Newtownbutler area.


A Loughkillygree accordionist proudly playing for NHS heroes

Banding Superheroes fly into Larne

Big-hearted Larne flute band, the Constable Anderson Memorial, made a series of enthusiastically received visits to the children of Roddensvale School.
They were certainly happy to receive parcels from the legendary Batman and Spiderman!
A band representative commented: "The superheroes visited a total of 35 families around the town. We understand this may be a particularly difficult time for some of the children not being able to continue their daily routine, so it was great to see the smiles on their faces, as well as some of the adults."
The band would like to thank the Factory Community Forum and Antiville Residents' Forum for their donations to make the initiative possible. Thanks also go to Alison McCombe, who was great help in supplying the names and addresses of each child who was to receive a visit.



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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

Arlene's recipes

Sure it's old, but it is beautiful!



Just like the Sash, this retro-style trifle has also stood the test of time and remains a firm favourite in our house. Made with store cupboard ingredients and some fresh cream and milk, it is the ideal solution when you are having a crowd for a BBQ. Its orange, it's cool and creamy and it will make the perfect pud for your "Twelfth at Home" celebrations!

Retro Mandarin Orange Trifle
Serves 8-10
6/7 trifle sponge segments or use a lemon or pineapple jam swiss roll
2 tablespoons orange curd (eg Mrs Bridges) or use lemon curd 9optional)
2 large tins mandarin oranges in juice
1 1/2 packs orange jelly eg Hartleys
1 pint boiling water
3 tablespoons Birds custard powder
3 tablespoons caster sugar
1.5 pints milk
500ml whipping cream
1 teaspoon vanilla essence
25g cater sugar
40g dark chocolate

Jelly Base
1. Cut the jellies into cubes and place into a large measuring jug. Add 1 pint of boiling water and stir until melted.
2. Drain the tinned mandarins. Use the juice from the mandarins and enough cold water to make up 1/2 pint of liquid. Stir into the melted jelly.
3. Spread each of the trifle sponges with the orange or lemon curd if using, and arrange in a layer in the bottom of a large trifle bowl. (you may need to cut some sponges in half to fill in gaps)
4. Add the mandarin orange segments (reserve about 8) evenly over the sponges. Pour the cooled jelly over the top and place in the fridge to set.

Custard
1. Mix 3 tbsps custard powder with 3 tbspns sugar in a medium heavy based saucepan. Measure 1.5 pints milk into a jug, and add a little of the milk to the custard powder and sugar, stirring until smooth. Stir in the remaining milk, and heat gently, stirring continuously until gently boiling. Remove from the heat and stir in 150ml of the whipping cream.
2. To prevent a skin from forming, either stir continuously until cooled or place the saucepan of custard in a large bowl of cold water and cover with a round of greaseproof paper, ensuring the paper is fully in contact with all the custard. Allow to cool, before pouring the cooled custard evenly over the set jelly. Place in the fridge to set.

Cream topping
1. Pour the remaining cream, sugar and vanilla essence into a large bowl and beat with a mixer until soft peaks.
2. Spread the cream over the custard layer and decorate with reserved orange segments and lots of grated chocolate curls.

Cooks Tip: This trifle is also suitable for making in individual sundae glasses

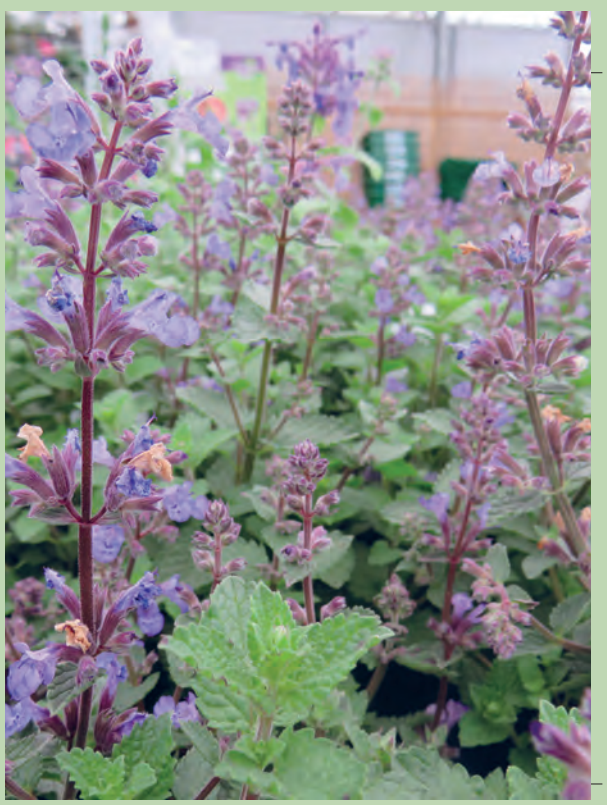


Gardener's Corner

by Beth Lunney



We have been open for almost two months now and on the Nursery Centre we are as busy as ever and we are all getting used to the 'New Normal' as they call it. The selling season for bedding plants is coming to an end but the herbaceous perennials kick in now and they are looking fantastic and we have a great selection. We have a lovely batch of ferns – I know they don't flower and they are just green but they can be stunning when planted in the right place. Two particularly nice ones are Dryopteris affinis also known as the 'Scaly Male Fern' or 'Golden Male Fern' and Dryopteris wallichiana or 'Alpine Wood Fern' (pictured right). Dryopteris affinis is native to the British Isles and Europe and is a robust fern with a striking appearance. In spring young, stout fronds of bright yellow-green appear which turn to a rich green in summer. The stems are covered in golden scales especially at the base. This fern will grow to 3-4ft with the same spread. Although deciduous, in mild winters or in sheltered beds this fern can be semi-evergreen. Dryopteris wallichianais is native to the Himalayas and takes its name from the 19th Century Danish botanist Nathaniel Wallich (1786-1854) who worked in India near Calcutta. This is a tough, hardy fern but considered to be one of the loveliest. In spring strong, upright, pale-gold-green fronds appear turning darker green with some bronzy shading and dark brown ribs in summer and can grow up to 3-4ft high and wide. After a few years there can be as many as 50 fronds on the fern in a year. Ferns do well in full or partial shade with moist, well-drained, humus-rich soil and are easy to grow. They can really brighten up any shady, difficult corner or woodland bed. Plant in an old terracotta pot for a dramatic effect but remember to keep it well watered.



A new perennial to us this year is Nepeta faassenii 'Purrsian Blue' (pictured left). This plant is low growing with a height of 12-16 inches and the same spread and makes a fantastic edging to a garden path with its tidy and low rounded habit. The aromatic foliage is grey-green and shows of the flowers beautifully. From May until September densely-packed stems of periwinkle-blue flowers appear in spikes above the foliage. Nepetas like full sun in a light, well-drained soil. This particular variety of Nepeta was bred by Kevin Hurd of Walters Gardens in Michigan, USA in 2013. The name 'Purrsian Blue' alludes to the fact that cats are attracted to Nepeta – Catmint. They love to roll in it and the compounds in the plant give them a euphoric feeling. Nepeta will also repel insects.

MOTOR MOUTH

with Graham Baalham-Curry



Take a look at what Hyundai's smallest SUV, the Kona, has to offer

A baby SUV from Hyundai

Korean manufacturer Hyundai currently offers eight different models within its car line-up. Here we look at its smallest SUV, the Kona. It's a vehicle to suit the needs of many and, despite being slightly more hard-wearing inside than some rivals, Hyundai's are incredibly well screwed together, providing an abundance of comfort and spec as standard.







On the Kona, two turbocharged petrol engines are available starting with a 1-litre, 3-cylinder unit producing 120ps, which will see 0-62mph in 12 seconds, with a top speed of 112 mph via a 6-speed manual gearbox.

This engine and 'box is the only option available on all but the top trim level car, is equipped with a 1.6-litre, 4-cylinder unit, mated to a 7-speed (dual clutch) automatic transmission with four-wheel drive.

This combination is no slouch and will see 0-62mph in a mere 7.9 seconds, with a top speed of 127mph.

There are, for the environmentally aware or those who wish for a company car with decent benefit, a pair of eco-friendly models which I hope to report on at a later date, but for reference, a hybrid engined model starts from £23,160 whilst an all-electric version starts from £29,900.

So, what exactly do you get for your money from the varying trim levels?

Let's start with the 'Kona S' which is priced from £18,250 and is fitted with 16-inch alloy wheels, auto headlights, daytime running lights, full electric windows, air conditioning, a 5-inch audio display with Bluetooth, DAB radio, USB and auxiliary input and finally, cruise control.

A 'Kona SE' starts from £19,550 and adds 17-inch alloy wheels, roof rails, rear parking sensors with reversing camera, a 7-inch touch screen with smartphone integration in the guise of Apple Carplay and Android Auto, and a leather steering wheel and gear knob.

A 'Kona PLAY' which to be looks like great value for specification, starts from £19,300 and adds 18-inch alloy wheels, metallic paint, and rear privacy glass on top of all that the SE comes with.

A 'Kona Premium' adds a chrome front grill surround, silver rear skid plate, keyless entry, automatic wipers, climate control, electric lumbar support on the driver's seat, 8-inch touch screen and KRELL premium audio system and is priced from £20,850.

Next in the line-up is the model tested and photographed, a 'Kona Premium SE' which starts from £23,250 and adds a full leather interior, heated and cooled electrical adjusting front seats, rear central armrest, heated steering wheel and a head up display along with electric folding mirrors and blind spot detection.

Finally, a 'Kona Premium GT' comes with front and rear LED lights featuring automatic high beam, drive mode selection and automatic brake assist with pedestrian recognition.

Pricing on this model starts from £27,870.

Aside the standard specification that comes on the Premium SE, a glorious metallic colour choice is the only option added to this test car, and as such, this 'Blue Lagoon' coloured model costs £23,815.

Or, over a three-year term with a £2,000 deposit, you would be paying something in the region of £360 per month, and that's with an annual mileage of 10,000.

Sitting in a very crowded segment, the Hyundai Kona faces stiff opposition from the likes of the Volkswagen T-Cross or Mazda's CX-3.

However, I think it's safe to say that the Kona will turn more heads with its styling. Styling that is marmite, but a bold style that I like and, with a build quality that is right up there with the best of them. It is certainly a very viable, yet funky option, of a small SUV.

Having managed to cover around 500 miles during my week of Kona custody, the bulk of which was done in two four-hour driving stints, I was not only smiling at how cool this car looks, but also at how incredibly comfortable it is to drive and how, for a small car, it coped with such mileage effortlessly.

The small engine is incredibly punchy around town, but for a driving enthusiast or for someone running very late for work, it may feel a little lacking.

With a real-world return of 40mpg during my time with this car, there isn't a great deal to fault with the Kona, except perhaps it's pricing once you start to rise up the trim levels.

Hyundai's Kona is covered by five-year, unlimited mileage warranty, and their website is one of the simplest I have had the pleasure of using.

Fact File for model tested

Make: Hyundai

Model: Kona

Trim: Premium SE

Engine: 1-litre turbocharged petrol

Gearbox: 6-speed manual

Cost: £23,815.

ORANGE NEWS



A model parade!

Over the last few weeks, Bro. Richard Wilson, a member of Boveva Purple Star LOL 260, Co. Londonderry, has been working hard making this fantastic model of an arch, band and banner.



Wor. Bro. Mark Moore (District Master) and Wor. Bro. Ernest McCay (Ass. Dep. City Grand Secretary) are pictured making a donation of PPE to Claudy Health Centre on behalf of Cumber Claudy No 2 District Loyal Orange Lodge.





Bro. Wilbert Gilmore, a member of Ballygarvey LOL 746, made this brilliant arch during lockdown with some help from his grandson, Bro. Nathan Gilmore, WM Ballygarvey LOL 746, and Bro. Sammy Millar. The arch is displayed on the side of his house in Broughshane.



Worshipful Master Stuart Woods and Deputy Master Alex Dale of Laurencetown Purple Star LOL 822 (Bann Valley District) handing over a donation of PPE to Seapatrick Care Home in Banbridge on behalf of the Lodge.

Correction

In the June edition of the Orange Standard we carried a Letter to the Editor entitled 'Universities becoming a battleground in a cultural war'.
The letter contained the sentence, 'At Queen's University, a poster was displayed at the Fresher's fayre in September which read 'Brits out', no action was taken.'
We have been asked to clarify that the poster in question was put on display by student stallholders at the event and was immediately removed by the Students' Union after it was brought to the attention of an event steward. The University communicated the actions to the students who raised concerns over the poster on the day, and also publicly the following day. The University also undertook an internal review following the event.

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Contact Linda on 028 9070 1122

Pomeroy District LOL No. 5 cheque presentation



The organisers of Pomeroy District LOL No 5 Carol Service held in the Bonn Orange Hall on Sunday, 8th December, 2019 presenting a cheque for £460 to C.E.F representatives Paddy and Jill Crozier.
Pictured, from left to right, are Bro. Richard Reid, Bro. Henry Sinnamon, Jill and Paddy Crozier, Rev Bro. Trevor Boyd and Bro. Ben Sinnamon.
Please note this presentation took place prior to Government Restrictions due to Covid 19.

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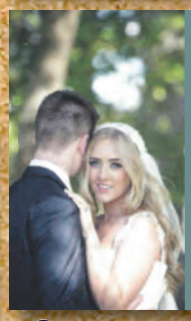
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AROUND THE LODGES

Cheque presentations from Benburb District



Benburb District No.13 WDM Bro. John Walker presenting a cheque to Southern Area Hospice Services.



District Treasurer Bro. Robert Kirkland presenting a cheque to Dereck Marshall on behalf of MacMillan Cancer Support.



District Treasurer Bro. Robert Kirkland presenting a cheque to Co. Tyrone Grand Master Bro. Perry Reid for the Co. Tyrone JustGiving Appeal for support of our Health Workers and Health related charities.

Bessbrook District support for local schools



Bessbrook Orange District recently delivered some little packs for each pupil at a number of local schools. These packs were part of the Bessbrook Orange District response to support the local community during the Covid-19 pandemic.





BOOKSHELF

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Together Through The Storms

This devotional helps married couples to navigate the storms of life together. Working through the book of Job, Sarah Walton (author of "Hope when it Hurts") and her husband Jeff reflect on their own experiences in a marriage that has faced chronic illness, baggage from the past, a child with neurological challenges, and financial difficulties—and show how to cling to Christ and each other.



This is not a "how to" guide on having the best marriage, but, rather, a walk alongside you and your spouse, sharing the realities of suffering and the effects it can have on a marriage. It is an encouragement to lift your eyes above your trials, off your spouse, and onto our all-sufficient Saviour.

Sarah and Jeff are writing while life is still hard, and they talk about your storms. The only problem is this: you will not be able to give this book to your friends because you and your spouse will keep going back to the prayers at the end of each chapter. If couples pray those prayers together, they will be transformed.

God's Very Good Idea

God's very good idea is to have lots of different people enjoying loving him and loving each other. This stunningly illustrated journey from the garden of Eden to God's heavenly throne room shows how despite our sinfulness, everyone can be a part of God's very good idea through the saving work of Christ.



This book celebrates diversity and will help children see how people from all ethnic and social backgrounds are valuable to God and how Jesus came to rescue all kinds of people. It will also excite them about being part of church - God's delightfully different family. God-centered, clear, and helpful. This books speaks right in to the racial issues facing the world right now.

Get these books from www.thegoodbook.co.uk or from Robin Fairbairn - robin.fairbairn@thegoodbook.co.uk



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Marks clocks up the miles for NHS

Brother Mark Jamison, of Upper Broomhedge LOL 799, is currently running 5k every day to raise funds for 'NHS Charities Together'. The 100 day challenge began on Friday, 8th May and will continue until 15th August.



All proceeds will support the families of front line workers within the NHS who have suffered during the Covid-19 pandemic. Magheragall District WDM Jason McCourt; William Leathem, DDM; Vaughn Hendron, District Secretary; and Mark Allen, District Treasurer; donated £500 towards the fundraising efforts of Bro Mark Jamison, PDM and District Chaplain. If you'd like to support Mark and make a donation, follow the link - https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/markjamison1886 Well done Mark for this fantastic fundraiser!



AROUND THE LODGES



Braid District Lodge officers and Lodge representatives clapping the NHS and key workers.


Bro. Major J Peters receiving a Covid-19 parcel from WDCGM Bro. DJ Gray.

Braid District LOL No 18 plays its part in Co Antrim


Wor. Bro. B Smyth delivering a Covid-19 parcel to one of 118 Brethren.


Bro. Curry delivers parcel to an LOL 523 brother


Mrs Caroline Forsyth, Innisfree Nursing Home, Buckna, receiving a goodie bag for one of her residents, Bro. K McKeown, LOL 532

Research project seeks input from PUL community

A new research project is seeking interviewees to record their experiences of moving from Northern Ireland to Britain from 1945 onwards.

The project, jointly organised by the University of Manchester and the University of Brighton, is the first substantial piece of research to consider this history.

The significance of illuminating these connections has been sharpened by the ongoing issues of Brexit and the Irish border – the project hopes to contribute to the this public debate.

The organisers of the research are particularly interested in hearing stories of leaving Northern Ireland from a range of perspectives, and in highlighting the different trajectories taken by people from across the spectrum of Northern Irish society.

Entitled 'Conflict, Memory and Migration: Northern Irish Migrants and the Troubles in Great Britain', the research also considers the impact of the Troubles on Britain and the effects this had on Northern Irish people living outside of the province as well as those within it.

While historians have studied the Irish diaspora in Britain in some detail, the stories of people who left Northern Ireland specifically are less well-known.

The project asks why people made the decision to move, how this shaped their lives and the lives of the families, and how they feel about their identity now, during a turbulent period in Northern Irish politics.

The role of cultural institutions, such as the Orange Order in helping people maintain their links to home, and form new connections in England and Scotland, will be central to the analysis; they are also interested in how churches, cultural centres and other spaces helped people settle in England and Scotland.

In addition to interviewing people who left Northern Ireland, the research will draw on the memories and experiences of their children to consider how they feel about their identity, their relationship to Britain and their parents' country of origin.

Professor Graham Dawson, the joint lead researcher on the project along with Professor Liam Harte, said: "The history of Northern Irish migration to Britain has not been considered in any detail previously. We hope that highlighting some of the stories of people who made this journey will shed some light on how it affected them, on Northern Ireland's relationship to Britain, and to the impact of the Troubles in both places."

"We would like to hear from people of all backgrounds and viewpoints who migrated from Northern Ireland to England or Scotland between 1945 and 2000. Particularly those who moved to or spent a significant amount of time in London, Manchester or Glasgow.

As well as men and women who were born and grew up in Northern Ireland, they are also keen to hear from people born in Great Britain to Northern Irish parents (one or both). The study is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

If you are interested in taking part in an oral history interview contact conflictmemorymigration@manchester.org.