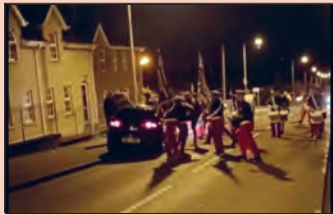


THE ORANGE STANDARD

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ORANGE ORDER



Officers to raise parade safety concerns
Page 5



Centennial events take centre stage
Page 8-12



Leaders seek meeting with Lord Frost
Page 14

Prime Minister must take urgent action on Protocol


Institution backs Unionist leaders

The Orange Institution has welcomed a joint declaration from the leaders of the main Unionist political parties united in their opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol. In response, the Orange Institution confirmed it fully supports the position of the Unionist parties and called on the Prime Minister Boris Johnson to take action as a matter of urgency. "In light of the united and determined Unionist rejection of the current arrangements, we implore our Prime Minister Boris Johnson to act now in the interests of the entire United Kingdom and rid us of this wholly unsatisfactory Protocol," the Grand Lodge statement read. On Ulster Day, 28th September, the unionist parties released a declaration which states: "We affirm our opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol, its mechanisms and structures and reaffirm our unalterable position that the protocol must be rejected and replaced by arrangements which fully respect Northern Ireland's position as a constituent and integral part of the United Kingdom."

See page three




The overall individual winner of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Centennial Golf Day at Edenmore Golf and Country Club was Alistair McClean, a member of the Kilmore LOL 237 team. Alistair received the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Centennial Perpetual Cup, a plaque and £100. Full report and pictures on pages 6 and 7.
Picture: Graham Baalham-Curry



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EDITORIAL

United front from Unionist leaders is welcome – but there's still much work to do

The timing of the joint declaration by the leaders of the four main unionist parties of their opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol was perfect.

Ulster Day, 28th September, was certainly the right day for taking a stand and declaring a united front against the appalling Protocol, which is nothing more than a betrayal of Northern Ireland. This was an important moment that sent out the right signals and showed the parties are together in this battle.

Sir Jeffrey Donaldson, Jim Allister, Doug Beattie and Billy Hutchinson may have their differences on a wide range of other issues, but it is extremely important that they, and their respective parties, are united when it comes to removing the NI Protocol.

The declaration was quickly welcomed by the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland. Grand Lodge Officers and staff have worked over recent months meeting with the leaders and emphasising the depth of opposition that exists within the membership of the Orange Institution and the wider Orange Family.

This has undoubtedly played a significant role in helping to bring us to this point.

The Institution's position on the Protocol has been crystal clear – we are steadfastly against it and believe that the only way to defeat it is through unionists working together.

But now is not the time to sit back – the job is far from finished and the battle is not over.

We must drive on from this point and build a momentum of opposition to the Protocol that cannot be ignored.

The Prime Minister Boris Johnson must realise that the damage being caused to the Northern Ireland in constitutional, business and economic terms is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

Now is the time for decisive action. The procrastination and dithering which has dominated proceedings up to this point must stop.

The representatives of the European Union may claim they are listening but they are clearly not getting the message that is being raised time and time again by the unionist and loyalist community.

From here, we look for positive steps forward that will ultimately lead to the removal of the Northern Ireland Protocol at the earliest opportunity.

The Protocol must go!

Institution believes confidence in PSNI is at an all-time low

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland believes that support for the Police Service of Northern Ireland amongst the Protestant, Unionist and Loyalist community has hit an all-time low following the publication of a report into policing plans for South Armagh.

The report was widely criticised by unionist politicians and a statement issued on behalf of the Orange Institution ensured its strong opposition was acknowledged.

The timing of the report could not have worse as very real concerns about two-tier policing designed to appease Nationalism continue to grow.

The Grand Lodge statement read: "On 1st September, the Orange family remembered 339 members of the Institution who were murdered by terrorists – over 70 of whom were serving police officers.

"On the previous day, the PSNI launched a report on policing in South Armagh which was highly political, insensitive and clearly designed to appease Nationalism.

"The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland have very real concerns regarding the impartiality of the organisation commissioned to conduct the research for this report.

"Furthermore, our members are sick of the rank hypocrisy of Sinn Fein who, whilst continuing to eulogise those who for decades, murdered and maimed police officers and soldiers in South Armagh, now ironically demand that policing is delivered on their terms.

"This report is the latest addition to a catalogue of ill-judged decisions in the past 18 months which illustrate the PSNI's clear lack of understanding of the concerns of the Unionist community and further fuels the allegations of a two-tier policing system. "The PSNI has once again shown its obsession with ensuring Republicanism is kept happy at all costs – including the cost of its own members morale and the organisation's credibility in wider society.

"No later than this week, Grand Orange Lodge Officers engaged with the PSNI regarding the

deteriorating confidence our members and fellow Unionists have in their approach to our community. Sadly, to date such engagement has provided limited progress – yet one photograph of the Chief Constable posing with serving officers in Crossmaglen has produced an apology, a commissioned report, a press conference and 50 recommendations.

"If the Chief Constable and his senior colleagues are serious about being representative of, and accountable to the community they police, then immediate and decisive steps must be taken to redress this obvious two-tier imbalance which threatens to completely undermine the traditional support for policing enjoyed from the Unionist community."

In the days after the publication of the report, Grand Lodge staff have raised several Freedom of Information requests with the PSNI as they seek to find more information relating to the report's findings. This matter will be followed up in future meetings with the PSNI and Unionist political representatives.

Flag stolen for a second time!

The Officers and Members of Cloughfin LOL 1277 are extremely disappointed and disgusted to report the theft of NI Centennial Flag from their Orange Hall, the second occurrence this year.

A spokesman said: "It was with great disappointment and frustration that we learned of the theft of the Northern Ireland Centennial flag from Cloughfin Orange Hall.

"The fact that this was the second time that flags on display at the hall have been targeted only goes to show that there are some people who simply refuse to respect the views of others.

"We believe that Northern Ireland's 100th anniversary is something to be celebrated and flying the NI Centennial flag was a small way of marking this very important year."



Tell us your story!

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ORANGE NEWS

Institution welcomes joint declaration by Unionist parties against the Protocol

The Orange Institution has formally welcomed the declaration by the leaders of the four main Unionist parties that they are united in their opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol.

The parties released a declaration which stated: "We affirm our opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol, its mechanisms and structures and reaffirm our unalterable position that the protocol must be rejected and replaced by arrangements which fully respect Northern Ireland's position as a constituent and integral part of the United Kingdom." The declaration was accompanied by detailed briefing notes highlighting the damaging affect the NI Protocol has to Northern Ireland's place in the United Kingdom, the impact on trade, business, democracy and undermining the Belfast Agreement. In a statement, the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland said 'the Orange family stands foursquare with them in their opposition'.



The statement continued: "Unionism has repeatedly made its position clear through meetings, rallies, statements, and interviews that we will not allow our Sovereignty to be diminished nor our cherished position as equal citizens within the United Kingdom eroded. "There have been seemingly endless negotiations and diplomacy over nine months to address the concerns around the Protocol - but to no avail. The EU is clearly not prepared to listen.

"It is now time for our Government to act without further procrastination, which has to date simply pushed the problem down the road. The situation requires clear, immediate and decisive action. "In light of the united and determined Unionist rejection of the current arrangements, we implore our Prime Minister Boris Johnson to act now in the interests of the entire United Kingdom and rid us of this wholly unsatisfactory Protocol."



Derriagh District objects to Sea Border

Worshipful District Master Bro. Andrew McCabe, Derriagh District LOL No. 11, presented DUP Leader Sir Jeffrey Donaldson with a written objection to the Irish Sea Border. The letter, which was presented at the District's Centenary Parade, reads: "The brethren of Derriagh District No.11 wish to express our objection to the Northern Ireland Protocol which has been forced upon the citizens of this country. "We also totally oppose the Irish Sea Border which has the potential to undermine our constitutional posi-

tion within the United Kingdom. One of the strengths of the Orange Institution is the broad range of political opinion within the ranks of its membership but the one thing that stands to unite us all is our commitment to ensuring that Northern Ireland remains an equal part of the United Kingdom. "We would therefore appeal to all of our unionist representatives instead of further division, we demand unity of purpose in order to collectively challenge the erosion of our political and economic position."



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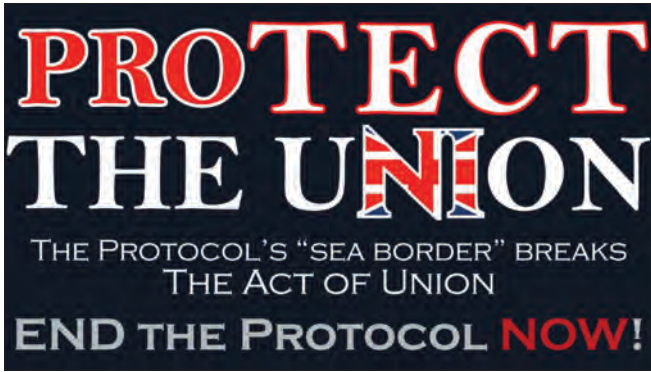
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ORANGE NEWS



Social media campaign aims to keep impact of NI Protocol in the spotlight

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland has undertaken a social media campaign to help raise awareness of the threats posed by the Northern Ireland Protocol.

remains steadfast in its opposition to the NI Protocol and Grand Lodge Officers and Staff have continued in their efforts to lobby the Unionist leaders and to leave them in no doubt of the views of the membership. The Social Media cam-

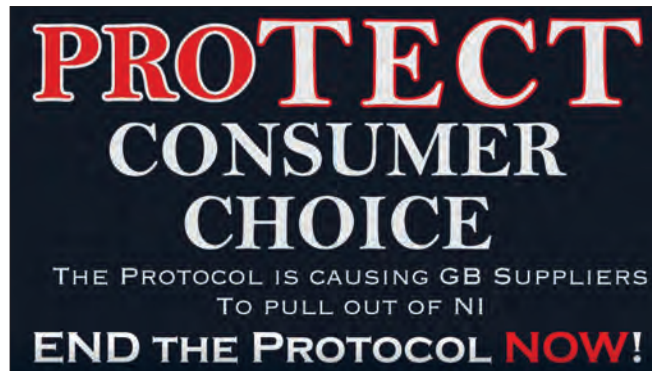
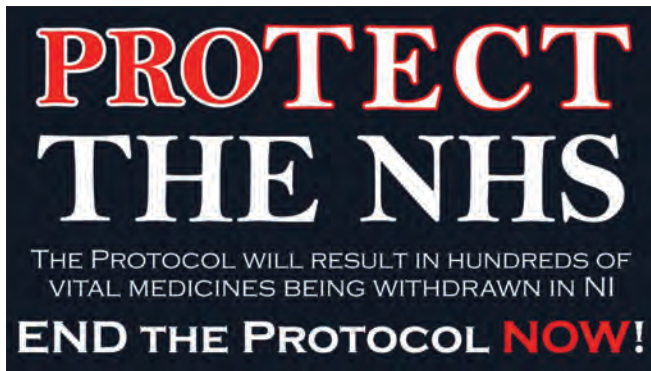
paign, which has been rolled out across Facebook and Twitter, puts the spotlight on the very real impact of the NI Protocol. The messages, which are pictured, deal with issues such as the Union, Democracy, Free Trade, Consumer Choice, The National

Health Service, and Peace. To date the messages, which have been released across three weeks, have been viewed more than 125,000 times. They will continue to be shared in the coming weeks, with new messages added when appropriate.

Everyone is being encouraged to share the messages on their Lodge or District pages to raise awareness of these important issues. We continue to see good work at local level where County, District and Private Lodges have made known their opposition to the NI

Protocol. They continue to meet with elected representatives and display banners on halls. Most recently, Derriagh District officers formally presented their letter objection to the Irish Sea Border to DUP Leader Sir Jeffrey Donaldson.

The Orange Institution



Districts and Private Lodges continue to make clear their opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol. Many have spoken with their local elected representatives. Pictured above is the banner of Moygashel LOL 708 on display at the Moygashel Centenary Celebrations with a 'No Irish Sea Border' statement.



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Parade safety to be discussed with PSNI after car is driven into bands

Grand Lodge Officers are to discuss parade safety at an upcoming meeting with the Chief Constable following an incident involving a car and bands at a parade in County Down.

Serious injuries were narrowly avoided after a car was driven through two bands during the Moneyslane Flute Band parade in Rathfriland.

The incident, which took place on 17th September, saw a Black Seat Leon car driven through Star of Down Flute Band from Maghera and Downshire Guiding Star Flute Band, from Banbridge.

Mobile phone footage captured by spectators shows the car being driven through the town. The car initially evaded police to enter the parade route and was driven at speed, forcing officers to take action to avoid be hit by the car. Footage on social media also shows the car as it approached one of the bands from behind, with members of the band totally unaware.

Gordon Lowey, from the Star of Down Flute Band, explained: "We

were parading through the town, playing a tune when this Black Seat Leon drove in tight behind us beeping his horn.

"When I walked over to the car to see what was wrong, the driver drove through the middle of the band.

"I shouted to the members to get out of the road as he wasn't for stopping - it happened so fast." Mr Lowey was in no doubt of the potential for serious injuries to had band members not managed to get out of the way.

The band took to Facebook to confirm all members of the band were ok and that they would be returning to Rathfriland for next year's parade.

A post on the Downshire Guiding Star Facebook page read: "We would like to thank everyone who has contacted us over the weekend to check in with the band and ensure we were alright, it is really appreciated."

Commenting on a video shared of the incident, the band's post added: "The video shows the speed the car

went through the town, and we are down the hill on the street that the car heads down.

"It's a miracle no one was seriously injured, including the police officers who had to dive out of the way as the car went past on the wrong side of the road."

Deputy Grand Master Wor. Bro. Harold Henning said it was fortunate that nobody sustained really serious injuries.

"The incident in Rathfriland was very serious indeed and we are really fortunate that it was not even more serious," he said.

"I have no doubt that this was an extremely unsettling, even frightening experience for the two bands involved. These bands are made up of people of all ages, including a lot of young people. It is totally unacceptable that they should be subjected to this type of incident when they are out on parade with their respective bands.

"In light of this incident, Grand Lodge Officers will be raising the issue of parade safety when we meet the PSNI in the coming weeks."



Image from social media which shows the car being driven through the Downshire Guiding Star Flute Band.

Higgins' decision shows poor state of relations

The decision by Irish President, Michael D. Higgins, to decline an invitation to attend a church service to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland has cast fresh doubts over the state of relations between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The service, which is to take place in Armagh later this month, is expected to be attended by Her Majesty The Queen.

Mr Higgins received the invite to the event, which is being organised by the four main churches, but declined initially, he said, because it referred to him as 'President of the Republic of Ireland'.

He then claimed that the invite had become political, something that drew much criticism from unionist representatives. Many representatives and commentators have used the situation to examine the current state of relations between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. They have come to the conclusion that we are at the lowest point for many years, even decades.

Grand Secretary Rev. Mervyn Gibson was interviewed by the News

Letter on the subject.

He described relations, specifically between unionists and the Government in the Republic of Ireland, as being at their 'lowest ebb for many years'.

And pointed to the Northern Ireland Protocol as the real source of the difficulties.

In relation to Mr Higgins, Rev. Gibson said he viewed his attendance at the church service with 'indifference'.

"Personally I'm indifferent as to whether he's here or not," said Rev. Gibson.

"The fact is he's the President of the Republic of Ireland and has no responsibilities for Northern Ireland whatsoever.

"Higgins was never very good at fostering good relations. He certainly wasn't President McAleese; McAleese was actively encouraging and engaging in conversations, etc."

He added that relations had been improving until the Protocol.

"I support good relations ... but they've been shattered because of the protocol. They've taken a massive step backwards," he said.

Media coverage of 200th Glasgow parade challenged

The County Grand Lodge of Glasgow's parade to mark the 200th anniversary of the first Boyne Anniversary parade in the city should have been cause for great excitement.

A big day for the famous Scottish city and a milestone for the Protestant community.

However, instead of giving coverage of the event in its context of great cultural and historical significance, much of the media focused on policing issues and arrests. Reports ignored the success of an event that attracted tens of thousands of participants and spectators in favour of the negative behaviour of a small minority - none of whom were part of the parade.

Even the build up to the parade, which was held on Saturday, 18th September, was dominated by stories focusing on the numbers of police required on the day. This was accompanied by warnings to those planning to attend that public order offences would not be tolerated. The day itself was enjoyed by

all who took part. The Grand Master Edward Stevenson, along with other senior officers from The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, had the privilege of taking part in the parade and reported a very positive experience.

The media, however, chose to focus on 14 arrests for a range of public order offences.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland hit back at the negative press coverage, some of which was picked up by sections of the Northern Ireland media. This prompted The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland to issue a statement in support of the Brethren in Scotland, stating: "The Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland have confirmed that no parade participants were arrested and have challenged the Scottish press on their partisan and inaccurate coverage of the event. The actions of a few followers who ignored the organiser's clear appeals for respect and tolerance should not dominate the narrative of what was a great display of colour, music, and

pageantry.

"Sadly, in Scotland there is clear bias in sections of the press against the Orange Institution which needs to be recognised and addressed."

In the days that followed, there were calls for a Parades Commission-type body to be set up in Scotland.

Grand Secretary Rev. Mervyn Gibson addressed the matter, saying he believed it would be 'a bad idea'.

"A more useful response would be to engage with people. The largest party in Scotland has little or no contact with the Orange Institution. No open and frank dialogue. They may differ constitutionally, but that shouldn't stop dialogue. If there is an issue talk to the leadership - talk, not lecture - discuss, not dictate.

"I would urge the Scottish Executive and Nicola Sturgeon not to dance to the tune of a small number of Roman Catholic protesters who don't want a Protestant about the place."

ORANGE NEWS

NI CentenNial celebrations golf competition tees off

The Northern Ireland CentenNial events in the month of September hit the fairway with the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Centenary Committee's golf competition.

More than 70 golfers took part in the event, which was held at Edenmore Golf and Country Club at Magheralin.

The Counties represented were Leitrim, Antrim, Belfast, City of Londonderry, Down and Tyrone. The event even attracted a team from the band scene, with Ravara

Pipe Band entering a team after they saw details of the event on social media.

Up for grabs on the day were a range of team and individual prizes.

The first-place team was David Armstrong, Winston Armstrong, Stuart McClean and Clarke Thompson, Knocknadona Temperance LOL 159, County Antrim. In second place team was Aaron Shortt, Kyle Spence, David Thompson and Brian Monteith, Beragh LOL 796, County Tyrone. In third was the team of Neil Cousins, Lee McFall, Stanley Han-

na and William Hanna, Aughna-
hoory Heroes LOL 343b, County Down.

The overall individual winner was Alistair McClean, a member of the Kilmore LOL 237 team, with a score of 43 points. He received the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland CentenNial Perpetual Cup, a plaque and £100.

Runner-up was David Thompson, Beragh LOL 796, County Tyrone with a score of 42 points. He received a plaque and £75. In third was David Armstrong, Knocknadona Temperance LOL 159, County Antrim, with a score

of 40 points. He received a plaque and £50.

Following a great day of golf, Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Officers joined the golfers for the evening meal and presentations. Entertainment was provided by Bro. Gary Wilson, who was compere, and piper Bro. Glen Baxter. Earlier in the day, the GOLI CentenNial Lambeg Drum was played by Bro. Martin Hayes to herald the start of the competition, while the NI 100 Mini car was on display at the clubhouse. The original idea of a Golf Day was kick started by the late Wor-

Bro. Billy Thompson, County Antrim.

Sincere thanks go to Mr. Josh Logan, General Manager and his team at Edenmore G&CC, for ensuring an excellent day. Thanks to the support of the Ulster-Scots Agency, participants were entertained to traditional Ulster-Scots music in the form of a Lambeg drummer and piper. Those present also learnt about the Ulster-Scots history of golf and some of the key individuals who not only introduced golf to Ulster, but also ensured the game's enduring popularity.



Three members of the winning team from Knocknadona Temperance LOL 159 receive their prizes from Grand Master Edward Stevenson.



Three members of the winning team from Knocknadona Temperance LOL 159 receive their prizes from Grand Master Edward Stevenson.



The third placed team from Aughnaohorey LOL 343b pictured with the Grand Master Edward Stevenson.



Above and below: Individual prize winners.



ORANGE NEWS



The overall individual winner Alistair McClean pictured with his fellow members of the Kilmore LOL 237 team.



Grand Master Edward Stevenson is joined at the CentenNial Golf Day by Deputy Grand Master Harold Henning and Grand Secretary Rev. Mervyn Gibson.



Bro. Gary Wilson compered the evening's presentations.



Piper Bro. Glen Baxter played a selection of tunes.



Bro. Martin Hayes played the CentenNial Lambeg drum.



Pictured are a selection of the teams who took part in the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland CentenNial Golf Day at Edenmore Golf and Country Club.



ORANGE NEWS



The lodges in Newtown Stewart District LOL No. 9 organised a series of beacons to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland.

Moygashel celebrates



CentenNial competition winners collect their prizes

One of the many highlights of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland's NI CentenNial celebrations has been the competitions for music, song and poetry. The competitions attracted strong interest and despite some unavoidable delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the judging process was completed and winning entries chosen from each category. Taking first place in the poetry competition was Clifford Moffett from Newry, Co. Down. Clifford, a member of Sheepbridge

LOL 1350, has a long association with the Orange Institution, having joined the juniors at 10 years old. Clifford said: "I decided to enter the poetry competition when I seen it advertised in the Orange Standard. I wanted the story of the poem to flow, not only to outline the history of Northern Ireland since its formation, but also reflect Orange culture, too. "I was shocked and overwhelmed to be chosen as the winning entry by the judges, given the high standard and number of

entries. To see the winning poem represent Newry District No. 9 is a great accolade." Work commitments have meant Clifford has yet to visit Schomberg House, however we hope he will be available to do so in the near future. The Music section of the competition was keenly contested. However, the winner for the judges was Co. Armagh man Jim Livingston. Jim will be no stranger to those familiar with the pipe band scene here in

Northern Ireland. He was a regular on the competition circuit for many years and continues his association with Joseph Forde Memorial to this day. His biggest interest these days lies with teaching the next generation of pipers. Jim, who has been writing tunes for decades, said on his visit to Schomberg House: "It came as a great surprise to win the competition - but I'm delighted that I have." Jim was joined by his Grandson Tim Wharton who performed the tune.



The winner of our song competition was another man with very strong links to piping in Northern Ireland. For Mark Smyth piping has helped take him around the world, as he has performed in China, USA and Mount Kilimanjaro! He explained his fondest memory of piping was standing in a small Chinese village near the great wall showing children pipes for the first time, and likewise in a 'long hut' in

the Borneo jungle for the village elders and kids. "They'd never heard pipes before, but they all clapped and danced anyway! The power of music!" he said. Mark has also played in a number of local bands, including Gilnahirk and Robert Armstrong Memorial Pipe Band. All the winning entries can be viewed on the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Facebook page.



Song competition winner Mark Smyth receives his prize from Chief Executive Iain Carlisle during a visit to Schomberg House.



Chief Executive Iain Carlisle presents Music composition winner Jim Livingston with his prize.

ORANGE NEWS



CentenNial coin presentations in Portadown

Before the Twelfth of July, Portadown Senior District presented some of the Junior Lodges in the town with a CentenNial coin that Grand Lodge had Commissioned to celebrate the Centenary of Northern Ire-

land. The boys were very happy to receive this commemorative coin to mark this Historic milestone. Pictured, left to right, are County Grand Master Armagh Juniors Wor. Bro John

Hoy, Bro Hoy JLOL 51, Deputy District Master Portadown District LOL 1 Wor. Bro Nigel Dawson and Portadown Junior District Master Wor. Bro Gary McIvor. The second picture shows County Grand

Master Armagh Juniors Wor. Bro John Hoy, Bro Power JLOL 150, Deputy District Master Portadown District LOL 1 Wor. Bro Nigel Dawson and Portadown Junior District Master Wor. Bro Gary McIvor.



The Queen's LOL 1845 annual service was held at Union Theological College, Belfast, parading from and returning to Sandy Row Orange Hall. This was a special service as we celebrate 100 years of Northern Ireland and was held in the College chapel, where the Senate of Northern Ireland met before Stormont's Parliament Buildings were built. The lodge was ably led by Moneyslane Flute Band.

CentenNial football victory for Bellarena Faith Defenders

Limavady District LOL No. 6 continue to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland with a number of events, the latest of these being a five-a-side football tournament which was played for the NI Centennial Trophy. Teams from a number of private orange lodges and local bands entered the competition, which was played at the Scroggy Road 3G pitch over six successive Tuesday nights in a knock-out format.



The tournament drew to a close on Tuesday, 21st September, with the much anticipated final being played out between teams from Bellarena Faith Defenders LOL 984 and Dungiven Crown Defenders Flute Band. Bellarena LOL came out on top as very worthy winners in an exciting final watched by a large crowd of spectators. Following their win the victorious team were presented the Limavady District LOL No.6 CentenNial Cup by the Deputy District Master Wor. Bro William Semple. The Worshipful District

Master Wor. Bro Mark Smyth, who also played for the winning team Bellarena LOL, thanked all those who had made the event such a success including the District Treasurer Wor. Bro David McKeegan, Tournament Organiser, the various bands and lodges from the District for taking part, all those who turned up to support the teams over the six nights and finally Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council who funded the event as part of their NI 100 grant programme. A number of other events are planned by the District Lodge to mark the Centenary year, including a CentenNial Dinner, CentenNial evening of Music and a Carol Service.

Making the headlines in Rathfriland

The Brethren of Rathfriland District LOL No. 3 have undertaken a CentenNial project to look back over the rich history of Orangeism in the area over the last hundred years. The work has culminated in a feature series in the local newspaper, The Rathfriland Outlook, which will see each lodge in the district given coverage over the weeks ahead. The lodges have been trawling the minute books and archives, bringing interesting stories to the fore.

Article snippet: RATHFRILAND DISTRICT LOL NO 3 LOOKS BACK ON LAST 100 YEARS. Rathfriland District reflects on Orangeism and its contribution locally since foundation of NI. Includes photos of a parade and a group of men.

ORANGE NEWS

Festival fun for County Fermanagh Grand Lodge

County Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge hosted a CentenNial Festival on Saturday, 11th September, to mark 100 years of Northern Ireland. The event, which was hosted at the former TP Toppings site in Enniskillen, included

a full day of activities, such as cultural displays, musical entertainment and concluded with a parade of the town. There was also a number of static displays for visitors to view. The festivities got underway with a musical

performance from Robert Pearson. This was followed by The Schomberg Association from Killeel who provided music, period dress and drama; a performance from Churchhill Silver Band music group and Ulster Scots dancing from

the Erne Highland Dancers. Florencecourt Flute Band entertained the crowds, while cookery demonstrations featuring Florence Creighton gave a taste of food through the years. There was comedy routines by Joe Graham and drills

from the USC Historical platoon. The events were concluded by a performance from the UVF Regimental Band from East Belfast. The parade of the town included vintage cars, tractors and lorries, a number of floats, and of course members of

the Orange Order and bands. Commenting on the successful day, Bro. Tom Elliott, said: "It was an entertaining day, with a lot packed into it. Most of the entertainment was related to the early part of the last 100 years.

"In addition to great support from local people, we had visitors from Belfast, Killeel, Coleraine, Londonderry, Ballymena and Castleterg - we were delighted to welcome some visitors from Limerick and a couple from England."



Derriaghy District hosts CentenNial parade



The Brethren of Derriaghy District LOL No. 11 hosted a CentenNial parade on Saturday, 25th September. The Worshipful District Master, Officers and Brethren of Derriaghy District No. 11 would like to thank all the Brethren from other Districts, Dunmurry Protestant Boys Flute Band and Upper Falls Protestant Boys FB for supporting the parade. Visit the District Facebook page for more pictures.



Centenary Day at Inch

The brethren from Inch LOL 430 and members of Inch Flute Band combined to organise a Centennial Day at their hall on Saturday, 18th September.

The event was put together in only three weeks and involved an immense amount of behind the scenes work by our members.

The idea was to have exhibitions and stands of a cultural theme around the car park with a central stage hosting continuous entertainment throughout the event, which was scheduled to run from 3pm to 8pm.

There was a variety of exhibitors which included pop up displays, leaflets and handouts from both GOL, the Ulster Scots Agency, Ulster University Jordanstown Orange Society and the Women's Loyal Orange Institution. Living History Ireland provided living history characters from both the 1690 and WW2 periods who mingled with the crowd and posed for photographs.

Bro. Jim Halliday put his magnificent Northern Ireland Exhibition on display. This included many interesting items including the formation of the RUC, Ulster Special Constabulary and The Royal British Legion.

The Somme Museum was represented by Mr Austin Cheevers, who told the story of the 13th Battalion (Co. Down Volunteers). Austin also had plenty of artefacts from the Great War and information on the Ulster Tower and was able to give advice and help people in their search for information on their relatives who fought with the Ulster Division. Austin also had an army jacket, hat and dummy rifle for the kids to try on for pictures.

Andante brought a selection of their drums to put on display and Canopy Regalia from Lisburn also took a stand. Canopy manufacture loyal Order regalia, jewels, embroidered flags and also supply equipment for the marching band community.

We also had a souvenir stand for our own band. The entertainment opened with a selection of songs by



a local group called Silver Wings. This was followed by a selection of dances by the Michelle Johnson Highland Dancers. Some of them were dancing for the first time, they were immaculately turned out and proved very popular with the audience. Next up was the Schomberg Fife and Drum who played a selection of traditional tunes on their Fife's accompanied by a Lambeg drum. Rachel Hutchinson, also a member of the Schomberg Society, sang two sets of songs. She was another

favourite of the large crowd. The musical performances continued with performances by Hollymount Pipe Band, Clough and Corbet accordion bands and Kinallen Region Ulster Scots Hub. The atmosphere was building as the light was fading so the spotlights were turned on and the arrival of the William Savage Memorial Flute Band had the audience on their feet as they applauded the Blood and Thunder music. The last act to perform was Inch Flute Band, who

marched into the car park and entertained the performers a selection of tunes. After the word of thanks and the National Anthem the evening closed with floodlights pointing to the top of the hill opposite the hall from where Piper Laura Neil, from Hollymount, closed the evening with two tunes to the delight of the crowd. Bro. Robert Lennon explained: "The success of this event was down to several things. The energy and enthusiasm and hard work of our own members,

the generosity, musical talent and dedication of our entertainers, all of whom volunteered to give up their time to come and perform, and the fantastic large crowd who came to see and support the event from far and wide. "Organisers were delighted to welcome visitors from Kilkeel, Banbridge and as far away as Enniskillen. Events such as this highlight our culture and help us pass our Traditions down to future generations. "At a time when our identity seems to under attack

from every direction. We have received tremendous positive feedback since Saturday. Both this and watching all the smiling faces of proud parents as they watched their children perform on the stage make this an extremely successful event and one which we feel was very worthwhile. "We are extremely proud of our achievements at Inch over the last few years and are pleased to have been able to celebrate the Centenary of our 'Wee Country' in such a fitting manner.

ORANGE NEWS

Banbridge plays host to Centennial celebrations

Banbridge District LOL No.7 had an unforgettable night recently to celebrate the Centenary of Northern Ireland.

They had a proud display of long-standing culture, on a phenomenal night in the Co. Down town as thousands of spectators turned out to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Northern Ireland ('Our wee country'). It was a massive show of strength for the Orange Order and Unionism in the Centennial year - something we can all be immensely proud of. This truly was a unique and historic parade which ensured that Banbridge celebrated the 100th Anniversary in style and in a cultural and memorable fashion.

Around 500 Orangemen from throughout the Province turned out to support Banbridge Orange District and organisers are truly thankful to all the visiting Grand Lodge, County, District Officers and Brethren and Sisters.

Principal organiser and chief planner, Deputy District Master Bro. Stuart Magill, said: "It is great when a plan comes together.

"We would like to say a special thanks to the organisers of each section of the parade who helped us on such a special occasion. "Ally Kerr who put together the Pipes and Drums who were a joy to listen too, and the Drum Majors who were meticulous in marching and discipline.

"Bro. Samuel Heenan, who co-ordinated the Accordion Band, who had a fantastic 95 accordions out on display along with the drummers and bass drummers, were truly a sight to behold.

"Bro. Derek Williams, who came on board without any hesitation, to take on the hardest of the jobs in arranging the Blood and Thunder Band. We asked Derek to get a band together



er of 100 and he out done himself and got a band together of 200. We will need to get a structural engineer in to check 'the Cut' after they passed through it! "Thanks to our Chief Marshall, Bro. David Watson who was the eyes and ears of the parade and along with his team made sure the parade ran without a glitch. Dave gave up the chance to parade himself to take on the role of Chief Marshall and we are

thankful he did, as he was the only man that could pull it off.

"To our District Officers who gave their full and unconditional support to the parade and ensured the full District was behind this historic event we thank them for their help in organising one of the best Orange Parades that the town has ever seen, to quote one of our members with over 50 years service "This was the best parade I

have ever had the pleasure to parade in what a tremendous experience.

"The three bands that accompanied the 500 strong Orangemen, were the William Sterritt Memorial, who led the parade, and Lisnaward and Seapatrik Flute, who ensured the Melody bands were represented. "Thanks also go to the Colour party who turned up to give an unforgettable display of pageantry that

had the streets of Banbridge covered in approximately 150 flags were out on display and we thank all the bands, lodges and RBP's who took part. "Adam's Army who once again came on board to hit the streets with the collecting buckets to raise money for our two chosen Children's Cancer charities Angel Wishes and The Children's Cancer Unit Charity, a fantastic amount of £8,250 was collected

and we would like to thank everyone who donated to these amazing two charities and like all of our fundraisers every penny goes direct to them." The next Centennial Parade will be on the 26th August 2121 - please can you put it in your diary!

Pictures of the parade are provided courtesy of Stephen Coulter and Alan Weir.

ORANGE NEWS



Bro. Thomas D. Forbes WDM, Bro. David Jackson PM, Bro. Robert Matchett, Bro. Thomas Matchett WM, Bro. Denis Rodgers, Bro. Derek Greenaway, DDM.

Clantilew Bible & Crown Defenders LOL 101

On Friday, 3rd September 2021 in Clantilew Hall four Members of LOL 101 received their 50 Year Jewels and certificates. Assisted by the WDM Loughgall DL0L 3, Bro. Thomas D Forbes and the DDM Loughgall DL0L 3, Bro. Derek Greena-

way, the WM, Bro. Thomas Matchett presented the jewels and certificates to Bro David Jackson PM, Bro. Robert Matchett, and Bro. Denis Rodgers. The WDM and the DDM in turn presented the awards to Bro. Thomas Matchett WM. All

were warmly congratulated by acclamation on receiving their awards. It should be noted that Bro. Robert Matchett and Bro. Thomas Matchett WM are triplet brothers with both joining the Orange Order on the same night, 8th July

1971. Could this be a first for the Institution with two triplet brothers being presented with their 50 Year Jewels and Certificates on the same night and that one, Bro Thomas as WM, presents the other, Bro Robert, with his awards?



Bro. David Jackson PM, Bro. Robert Matchett, Bro Thomas Matchett, WM; and Bro. Denis Rodgers.



Bro. Robert Matchett and Bro. Thomas Matchett, WM.

Donacloney LOL 75 presentations



An historic night for Donacloney LOL 75 as Worshipful Master Bro. Mark Baxter presented six Brethren with their 50 year jewels. They are, from left, Bro. K Allen; Bro. S. Wilson; Bro. J. Weir; Bro. T. McCormick; Bro. L.Allen; and Bro.W Hobson.

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ORANGE NEWS

Loyal Order leaders request meeting with Brexit Minister Lord Frost

The second annual Loyal Order Leaders Meeting was held in the Apprentice Boys Memorial Hall on 1st September, following a short service at the 'Siege Heroes Mound', in St Columb's Cathedral to mark Orange Victims' Day.

The Apprentice Boys of Derry hosted the service and meeting, with the Governor Graeme Stenhouse welcoming the Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, Edward Stevenson; Sovereign Grand Master of the Royal Black Institution, William Anderson; Grand Master of the Royal Arch Purple Chapter, John Clarke; Grand Master Independent Loyal Orange Institution, James Anderson; and Grand Master of the Junior Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, Joe Magill; along with other senior members from the various Institutions. The Grand Mistress of the Association of Loyal Orangewomen of Ireland Joan Beggs was unable to attend, however she was represented by Grand Secretary Julie Dodd.

The meeting addressed a number of key issues with those in attendance discussing the outstanding Covid regulations and the impact on the Loyal Orders. It was agreed that the clear message to all members was that 2022 would see



The Loyal Order Leaders pictured at the gates of St. Columb's Cathedral in Londonderry.

all traditional parades and events return to normal, with Lodges, Clubs and Preceptaries being encouraged to commence planning now.

The encouraging increase in Centennial events taking place as Covid regulations eased was noted. But it is anticipated that the early part of 2022 would also see several postponed Centennial events take place.

It was hoped that the main Centennial parade postponed from May 2021, in which all the Loyal Orders will

participate, would be held before June.

The message to all was clear - if you were unable to celebrate the Centennial in 2021 reschedule for next year.

The organisations present have also started planning celebrations and events to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

The main focus of the discussions at the meeting involved the unanimous opposition to the Northern Ireland Protocol.

It was pointed out that

the Protocol demoralised the population, caused political problems and led to petrol bombs back on our streets. All present agreed that the Protocol must go as it would lead to the break-up of the Union, witness Northern Ireland become subject to the laws and courts of a foreign jurisdiction, and pave the way to a United Ireland via an 'all Ireland economy'. The situation was so serious that if the Protocol didn't go, then the Assembly should be collapsed.

The leaders agreed the

sense of anger and injustice felt within the Unionist community was palpable. It was a political disaster that required a political solution, which to date was not forthcoming.

The 'Command Paper' as published by the Government in June, if implemented, would address many of the issues involved. It was agreed that the Loyal Orders would request a meeting with Lord Frost to impress upon him the need for the urgent removal of the Protocol.

Others issues discussed on

the day included, how two-tier policing was becoming evident through the actions of the PSNI; the need for Unionist co-operation at elections; the necessity to propagate the values of the United Kingdom to counter the various so called conversations about a United Ireland.

It was agreed there would be further discussions and actions concerning all the issues raised from what was a very productive and worthwhile meeting.

United we Stand - Divided we Fall



Apprentice Boys of Derry Governor Graeme Stenhouse lays a wreath.



Grand Master Edward Stevenson lays a wreath on behalf of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland.

ORANGE NEWS



A memorial featuring 339 Orange crosses was placed in Garden of Remembrance at the Museum of Orange Heritage, Sloan's House, Loughgall, to mark Orange Victims' Day.



Newbuildings Victoria LOL1087 held a Wreath Laying Ceremony and Prayer Service in remembrance of our Murdered Brethren on Orange Victim's Day. Thanks to Bro. Derek Magee for piping.



Several hundred members from Mourne District, along with GOLI Deputy Grand Master Harold Henning, GOLI Grand Lecturer Robert Barr, GOLI CEO Iain Carlisle, Grand Chaplain of the Royal Black Institution Rev. Nigel Reid, Sisters from the Association of Loyal Orange Women and visiting Brethren took part in the Orange Victims Day Parade and Act of Remembrance in Killeel.



Worshipful District Master Bro. Nigel Dowds and Deputy District Master Bro. Stuart Magill pay the respects of Banbridge District LOL No.7 to our murdered Brethren and Sister at a short service of Remembrance which was held in Banbridge Orange Hall.



Carntall Mossley LOL 134 remembering the victims of the Troubles.

On Sunday, 5th September, Brethren from Portadown District LOL No.1 joined by Sisters and Juniors paused to remember the Brethren murdered by the enemies of Ulster. We also remember the Brethren and 1 Sister murdered during the Troubles throughout the Province.



The Orange Standard pictured flying at half mast on Brownlow House, Lurgan, for Orange Victims' Day.

ORANGE NEWS

Service of Reflection held in Co. Armagh

County Armagh Grand Orange Lodge held a Service of Reflection for Orange Victims' Day at the Museum of Orange Heritage, Sloan's House, Loughgall, on the evening of Wednesday, 1st September. The service was led by Wor. Bro. Rev. Maurice Laverty, Deputy County Grand Chap-

lain, who also gave the Epilogue. Wor. Bro. Rev. Graham Middleton, Keady District Chaplain, read from the scriptures. During the service, the names of the 68 brethren from Co. Armagh murdered during the Troubles were read and wreathes were placed at the Memorial Tablet on the

front of the museum by Wor. Bro. Berry Reaney and Wor. Bro. Nigel Lutton on behalf of the relatives, and by Rt. Wor. Bro. Denis Watson, County Grand Master, on behalf of the County Grand Lodge. The Act of Remembrance was undertaken by Wor. Bro. Mervyn Walker, Worshipful

Master of Kinnego LOL 5. A solemn and dignified service to honour the memory of those brethren from the County who gave their lives in the cause of freedom in our beloved Province. The service is available to view online via the Sloan's House Facebook page.



Ballymacarrett District

Designated representatives of Ballymacarrett District LOL No. 6 laid a wreath at the UDR memorial in Thorndyke Street, which is close to the Orange Hall. The wreath laying and Act of Remembrance was carried out in recognition of Orange Victims' Day, which takes place every 1st September. The memorial makes particular reference to local Orangemen who were killed while serving in the Regiment. District Committee member Bro. Kirk McDowell conducted a short Act of Remembrance.



On Victims' Day, 1st September, the members of Whitewell Temperance LOL 533 Remembered their fellow Orange Brethren and work colleagues murdered by terrorists and also those who have been left mentally and physically scarred. We should never forget them and their families.

Joint Act of Remembrance for Orange and Royal Arch Purple at Sixmilecross

Sixmilecross District Orange Lodge No. 7 and Sixmilecross District Royal Arch Purple Chapter held an outdoor Joint Act of Remembrance and Wreath Laying to mark Orange Victims Day on Wednesday, 1st September at the RAPC Memorial Stone at Clogherney. Bro. Ken McDowell, District Master of Sixmilecross District Orange Lodge, welcomed all to the service. Bro. King Anderson, Assistant District Orange Treasurer and WM of Sixmilecross LOL 406, outlined the purpose of Orange Victims' Day, while Bro. Roy Graham, Orange District Treasurer, outlined how there can be no equivalence between victims and victim makers.

The first Bible reading was taken from Revelations 2 V 10 read by Bro. Irwin Anderson, District Master of Sixmilecross District RAPC. The second reading was taken from Psalm 37 v 1-11 read by Bro. Charlie Chittick, lay Chaplain of Sixmilecross District Orange. The specially commissioned prayer for Orange Victims' Day was read by Bro. Joe Crozier, District Treasurer of Sixmilecross RAPC. The Act of Remembrance began with the exhortation read by Bro. Cllr Allan Rainey, District Lecturer of

both the District Orange and RAPC, with lament played by Robin Anderson, Pipe Major of Cloughfin Pipe Band. Wreaths were laid by Bros Ken McDowell, Irwin Anderson and Allan Rainey on behalf of Sixmilecross District Orange, Sixmilecross District Royal Arch Purple Chapter and the Grand Royal Arch Purple Chapter of Ireland respectively. A minute's silence was observed by all present with recitation of the Lord's Prayer. Proceedings were closed with the National Anthem.



Sandy Row District No. 5

Sandy Row District LOL No. 5 marked Orange Victims' Day with a short service of Remembrance and thanksgiving on Wednesday, 1st of September. The Worshipful District Master Wor. Bro. James Martin, assisted by the Deputy District Master Wor. Bro. Andrew Walker, welcomed the assembled Brethren and Sisters to the service, which was conducted by Bro. John Collins, District Chaplain.

Sister Heather Kerrigan, a member of WLOL 202 Castlederg, was remembered as Sandy Row is the home of Erin's First District No. 1.

Those Brethren of Tullyvallen Guiding Star LOL 630 who were murdered in 1975, together with Rev. Robert Bradford MP LOL 688, who was murdered in 1981, and Brother Kenneth Campbell, of LOL 733, were also remembered.

Wor. Bro. James Dunbar, Past District Master, read out the names of the fallen Brethren of Sandy Row District LOL No. 5, which included Bro. Kenneth Campbell, LOL 733; Bro. William Burns, LOL 673; Bro. Alexander Gore, LOL 673; Bro. Joseph McIlwaine, LOL 374; Bro. William Kingsbury, LOL 760; Bro. Robert Batchelor, LOL 1239; and Bro. Robert Smyth, LOL 1300.

The 339 members of the Orange Institution were remembered as was their service and sacrifice. The families were remembered in prayer. They will never be forgotten.

In closing, the Worshipful District Master thanked all those for attending the service.

Newry District lays wreaths at graves of two victims

On Wednesday, 1st September 2021 Newry District marked Orange Victims' Day by visiting the graves of two of their fifteen members who were callously murdered by the IRA.

Exactly a century ago in 1921, the first Newry Orangeman murdered by republicans was Brother George Lynas, a member of the Duke of York lodge.

Having served through WW1, George returned home to the town of Newry and became a Special Constable in the USC. On the evening of 8th June 1921, whilst carrying out a search in the Carrogs area on the outskirts of Newry, George was murdered. In the resulting firefight a number of republicans were killed. George was just 21 year old and was due to be married. Hundreds attended his funeral at Riverside Church including his parents and fiancée. His coffin was draped with the Union flag and had his Orange



collarette resting on top. The brethren of the lodge were among those that carried his coffin from the church. The District Officers then visited the grave of the first Newry Or-



angeman to be murdered during the most recent terrorist campaign, Brother Joseph Jardine, a member of the Commons Cumberland Lodge. Joe, as he was known, was a 44 year old mar-

ried father of two boys who was employed as a veterinary officer with the Ministry of Agriculture. As Joe went about his work at the Middletown Customs, an IRA gang who travelled across the

border opened fire on Joe. Following the murder the terrorists fled back across the border. Unlike those that crept up to murder him, Joe Jardine was a real soldier. He had previously served in the Regular Army, the USC and at the time of his death was a Lance Corporal in the 3rd County Down Battalion of the Ulster Defence Regiment. Thousands attended his funeral at Newry Methodist Church. A UDR guard of honour presented arms as the cortege passed the UDR Centre on Downshire Road. At his funeral service Rev. George Watson stated that Joe was a man of sterling character. Referring to his murder Rev. Watson declared: "Beloved never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written Vengeance is Mine, I will repay says the Lord". The District Officers laid flowers at both the graves, whilst paying their respects.

ORANGE NEWS

Murdered Brethren Memorial dedicated at Burnside, Co. Antrim

Boyd Memorial LOL 312 Burnside held a special service of dedication for their Murdered Brethren Memorial which stands in the Garden of Remembrance beside the Orange Hall. The formal dedication was conducted by Wor. Bro. Rev. Mervyn Gibson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland. A number of senior officers of the Loyal Orders were in attendance. This included Rt. Wor. Bro. Edward Stevenson Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland; Wor. Bro. Harold Henning, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland; Rt. Wor. Bro. Ron Bather, Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of England; Rt. Wor. Bro. Maurice Kirkwood, County Grand Master County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge; Sir Knight Kenneth Hull, County Grand Master, County Antrim Grand Black Chapter; and Bro. Worthington McGrath, Deputy Governor of the Apprentice Boys of Derry. During the service, a passage of scripture was read by W. Sister Joan Hamilton.

A formal Act of Remembrance took place after the dedication led by Chairman Lodge Memorial Committee W. Bro Raymond Chestnutt. Kellswater Flute Band played at the service and had led short parade before the dedication.

The lodge was privileged to have in attendance relatives of two Murdered Brethren who lost their fathers at the hands of Republicans. They shared their experience since losing their fathers. The entrance to the memorial garden is through a wooded arch which has been erected in memory of W. Bro. Billy Thompson, a member of LOL 312 and one driving forces behind garden, who sadly died from Covid earlier this year. Bro. Thompson was also the Grand Secretary



Grand Master Edward Stevenson pictured with Brethren at the Murdered Brethren Memorial. And right, the memorial which is set in a garden beside Burnside Orange Hall.



Brethren pictured in the Memorial Garden.



Senior Officers from the Loyal Orders attended the dedication service.



Above and right: Brethren and Sisters taking part in the short parade.



Rt. Wor. Bro. Ron Bather, Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of England, and Grand Master Rt. Wor. Bro. Edward Stevenson.

of County Antrim Grand Lodge. As you journey into the garden there are two diamond-shaped flower beds, reminding us of the Battle of the Diamond in 1795, out of which the Orange Institution was founded. The black obelisk – Murdered Brethren Memorial sits on a plinth of 10 sides, representing each of the County Grand Lodges where members were mur-

dered. On the memorial is carved the modern logo of the Institution – the Orange Rose. Below the inscription reads: 'Dedicated to the memory of those members of the Loyal Orders who were brutally murdered, during the IRA terrorist campaign waged against the Protestant people of Ulster'. On the reverse is the inscription: 'Remembering this who have suffered in-

jury and pain as a result of Irish Republican terrorism, their courage to continue gives us strength'. In the garden are two benches, gifts from the Grand Orange Lodge of England and Ron Bather and family. Behind the memorial are planted 10 yew trees, each having been sponsored and in memory of a specific incident of the troubles or a departed Brother.



Kellswater Flute Band led the parade.0



Co. Fermanagh remembers murdered brethren



The Orange Institution in County Fermanagh held their annual Murdered Brethren service and parade.

Each year, the Institution remembers 339 members who died during Troubles, 31 were from Co. Fermanagh.

This year's commemorations were significant as it marked 50 years since the murder of UDR Private Frank Veitch on September 3, 1971.

The service began at 2.30pm and was hosted in the yard of the former T.P. Topping site. This outdoor venue was used due to the coronavirus restrictions. The service is traditionally held in St Macartin's Cathedral in Enniskillen.

The service was led by Bro. Rev. Charles Eames and the Co. Fermanagh Grand Chaplain, Wor. Bro. Rev. Rodney Beacom. Guest speaker at the service was Wor. Bro. Rev. Canon Alan Irwin, minister of Colaghty Parish Church, Lack.

During the service, music was provided by Tempo Silver Band, piper Darren Robinson and bugler Andrew Gordon.

An Act of Remembrance was held during the service, with a wreath laid at the town's Cenotaph during the parade, which featured three bands Tempo Silver, Ballindarragh Accordion and Inver Flute.



Kinawley District LOL No. 7 remembers Bro. Frank Veitch

On Wednesday, 1st September, members of Kinawley District LOL No. 7, Co. Fermanagh, together with the UDR Regimental Association - Enniskillen Branch, laid a wreath on the grave of Bro. Frank Veitch, Kinawley LOL 384, in Kinawley and Holy Trinity Parish Church Graveyard, Derrylin. Pte. Veitch was the first member of the UDR murdered in Co. Fermanagh when he was

killed on 3rd of September 1971, and the second member of the regiment to be murdered at the outbreak of the Troubles. Bro. Veitch, who was 22 years old, was murdered in the execution of his duties at Kinawley RUC station.

The wreath was laid by Bro. William Faulkner, who was on duty with Bro. Veitch at the time of the atrocity, and the Orange cross was laid by Bro. Abraham Veitch,

cousin of Bro. Frank Veitch.

Other members of the Veitch and Graham families were in attendance. Following the wreath laying ceremony, an Act of Remembrance took place.

There was then a short service in the Parish Church remembering all the innocent victims of the Troubles, with the 31 names of the murdered brethren in Co. Fermanagh being read out.



ORANGE NEWS

The CentenNial and Reformation Day

Each year we join with fellow Protestants worldwide to mark 31st October as Reformation Day. It is very important we do so, especially this year as we are also celebrating the CentenNial of Northern Ireland.

The founders of our Province were clear on the importance of the Protestant Reformation. One only has to read a few extracts from the church leaders of a century ago to be made aware that our forefathers were motivated by a love for the Protestant Reformed Faith.

Rev. Dr. McKean preached in the Ulster Hall on the morning of the signing of the Ulster Covenant, which some refer to as 'the birth certificate of Northern Ireland'. In the presence of the Unionist leaders, he stated: "The Irish question is at bottom a war against Protestantism; it is an attempt to establish a Roman Catholic ascendancy in Ireland." He solemnly reminded the people that this had been purchased by the blood of the martyrs. The people knew how important their faith was and they were also well aware that it was founded on Christ alone!

Rev. Dr. William McMordie, the minister of Mourne Presbyterian Church, stated that same day: "We are struggling to maintain our Protestant faith, our freedom of



The Luther Monument at Worms.

conscience, our right to an open Bible, our religious liberty. We deeply feel that these are most seriously threatened by the Home Rule proposals. If passed, it would have the same effect as if it were a conspiracy to undermine and destroy Protestantism in Ireland." As we mark Reformation Day this year, we ought to thank God for the liberties we enjoy in Northern Ireland because of the Reformation.

On 31st October 1517, Martin Luther, a monk and professor of theology at Wittenberg, Germany, nailed 95 arguments (theses) against the sale of indulgences to his local church door (the town notice board of the day). That was

the spark that ignited the Protestant Reformation.

The Reformation brought an end to the Dark Ages. A new day dawned, politically, socially, educationally and scientifically. While secular historians acknowledge these societal blessings, we know that these are a direct result of the spiritual revival at the Reformation.

Luther and other reformers did not commence a new, novel form of Christianity. They rediscovered the gospel as taught by Christ, the Apostles, the early Church and scripture.

Before the Reformation, it was spiritually dark because the Authority of Scripture was replaced

by Church dogma.

The entrance of God's Word gives light - Psalm 119 : 130.

But the church had made it a crime punishable by death to translate scripture into the people's language and even for ordinary people to listen to it read. Thanks to the Reformation we possess the Bible in our language. Because the scripture was hidden the Atonement of the Saviour had been obscured. Christ, Who is the 'Light of the World' was pictured as stern and unapproachable. One had to go to God through intermediaries, such as the popes, the church, the saints and especially the Virgin Mary, who is still termed 'the ladder to heaven'.

The central message of the Bible that remission of sins is through Christ's once for all sacrifice was denied. In contradiction, Rome claimed - and still claims - to re-sacrifice Christ in the Mass for the sins of the living and the dead.

Because scriptures were hidden and Christ's once for all atonement was not declared, people lacked the light of the Assurance of Salvation. In a blatant denial of Scripture, 1 John 5:13, Rome maintains that no one can know the forgiveness of sins or be sure of eternal life. Salvation is declared to be a process that depends upon a person's good works and obedience to the church. Even then, at the end of life, one was assured of no more than purgatory. Therefore, there was no comforting light in the valley of death. The Reformation dispelled the darkness through the light of the gospel.

The Orange Institution, the largest Evangelical Protestant fraternity in the world, is founded upon Reformation principles. The Bible alone is the only rule of our faith and practice. We profess that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

And we declare with Luther, 'Here we stand'.

By Bro. Rev. Dr. Ron Johnstone, Grand Chaplain



Cheques presented after Land Rover pull



The Worshipful Master and Deputy Master of Ulster Defenders of the Realm LOL 710 were delighted to announce the

final total collected from the Lodge's charity Land Rover pull to celebrate 100 years since the formation of Northern Ireland.

Thanks to the generosity of everyone that donated, the Brethren raised an impressive £3,048.70. The has been equally



divided between two charities - Helping Hands Autism Support and UDR Benevolent Fund. The Lodge was delighted

to be able to support these two charities this year and the Brethren wish both all the very best for the rest of the year.

1 Corinthians 13:13 - 'And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity'

MUSEUM NEWS

Seminar proves to be a hit!

On Saturday, 25th September, the first ever academic seminar focused solely on Orangeism took place in Sloan's House Museum of Orange Heritage in Loughgall.

An idea that has been mooted for several years, it was put into motion almost ten months ago, and the hard work that has been going on behind the scenes in terms of planning and organising came to fruition with great success.

Registration for delegates opened at 9am, and despite the limitations imposed by Covid restrictions, between thirty and forty individuals attended each of the day's three planned sessions.

Attendees came from right across Ulster, including several visitors from Donegal and Monaghan, meanwhile live online broadcasting of the presentations each garnered several hundred views in their immediate showings.

The day began with a general introduction from County Armagh Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland County Grand Master Denis Watson, who welcomed everyone to Sloan's House, before moving on to the main business of the day. Seminar convenor Quincey Dougan invited Iain Carlisle, CEO of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, to officially open proceedings. Iain's address proved immensely interesting, covering as it did the broad swathe of his own Orange origin story, tackling the main challenges for the Institution, and moving on to what is needed for a positive future.

Among his observation's particularly relevant to the event was that: "Much to the disappointment of our detractors, Orangeism is not a museum exhibit or a relic of our past. It is very much a living and breathing entity – in some ways multi-layered and complex yet in other ways a unifying force, singularly determined to survive and thrive."

The Convenor followed with his own welcome and some general housekeeping,



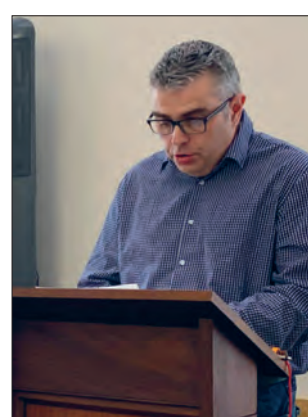
Convenor Quincey Dougan chairing the panel discussion.



Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland CEO Iain Carlisle.



Dr. Darach MacDonald.



Dr Daragh Curran.

before introducing the first speaker, Tandragee historian Richard Edgar.

A graduate of Queen's University Belfast and the Open University, Richard has authored six books and has written numerous articles for newspapers, magazines, and assorted history publications. Very relevant in this the Centenary year, an in-depth look was given in terms of the reasons why Northern Ireland came into existence, before looking at Orangeism and its role in the first Northern Ireland Cabinet.

A vibrant presentation kept the interest of all, not least in his own conclusions surrounding the contested issues of the success of the Country and the importance of its celebration. The second speaker interjected some international flavour to the day. Appearing live from Nova Scotia, Canada, utilising the excellent Sloan's House

audio-visual suite, retired lawyer and Canadian Orangeman Brian McConnell delved into the story of the Ladies Orange Benevolent Association in Canada. A fascinating insight into the once massive body included detail of its origins, the sometimes-contradictory nature of its connections to the male Institution in Canada, and intriguing individual snippets of the speakers own extended family members who played important roles in its past. Like each of the presentations, Brian's concluded with a question-and-answer session from the audience. Session Two began with the paper 'Trapped in the Free State: the Orange Order in Monaghan', from Clones born Dr Darach MacDonald. The well-known journalist and author was awarded his PhD in 2015 by Ulster University for his thesis, Proud to be Prod: Music, Memory and Moti-

vation in an Ulster Loyalist Band, and among his many books is the well received 'Blood & Thunder: Inside an Ulster Protestant Band'. The paper presented the story of Orangeism on the Free State side of the new border in the early years of partition, with particular emphasis on the Grand Orange Lodge of County Monaghan. A noteworthy section that engendered much discussion from delegates was that covering Monaghan's Orange feelings when they were excluded from the jurisdiction of the new Northern Ireland, and the feelings of betrayed and abandonment to the mercies of dark and threatening forces. The other half of the session was given over to independent historian, Dr Daragh Curran, whose research interests include the Orange Order, associational culture, Ulster politics, and the social history of North-

ern Ireland.

Earlier this year he released 'The rise and fall of the Orange Order during the Famine Years – from reformation to Dolly's Brae', published by Four Courts Press. Complementing the previous presentation, his work 'The survival of the Orange Order in Free State Donegal' followed the precarious position Donegal Protestants found themselves in in 1921, and examined how the Orange Order in Donegal maintained a presence in an arena which promised so little for the Protestant community. It included a look at the continuation of Orange processions and celebrations within Donegal, the level of mobilisation and organisation undertaken when attending cross border anniversary celebrations, the opening and community usage of the new Orange Hall in Carrigans, and the unfurling of new commemorative banners.

A break for lunch was used by delegates to peruse the exhibits of Orange related paraphernalia and literature on sale in a marquee to the rear of the museum. The Diamond Collectors Fair had collectors present from near and far, and given the very positive response, already it is being explored as to how it can be improved for the future. The third and final session of the day began with a short address from Dr Ciarán Ó Coighligh, a celebrated Gaelic scholar, author, theologian, and poet born and reared in Finglas, Dublin. His enthralling address traced his own journey from committed Irish Republican to abandoning it, and now sharing great affinity with Orangeism and Unionism. Among his many current projects is a book in progress of poetry entitled 'Atrocity Ár', in which he has composed short verse on each Orangeman and women murdered during what he defines as the 'terror', with each verse having an accompanying verse in Gaelic. Ciarán concluded with a moving reading of his works covering the mur-

dered Brethren of Tullyvalen Orange Lodge. In a rare sentiment heard from the Irish language lobby, Ciarán acknowledged that: "Some may be uncomfortable with the Gaelic poems included in this work. I pray they may come to see it as an extra gesture of atonement and a reclamation of Gaelic from those who have weaponized it."

The final main segment of the Seminar came next, when a panel composed of Iain Carlisle, Dr Darach MacDonald and Daragh Curran was joined by Donegal Orangeman and community worker Stewart McClean. The heading for the discussion was given as 'Orangeism in Ireland post Partition - yesterday, today, tomorrow?', and chaired by the Convenor. The day concluded with Convenor Quincey Dougan giving some closing thanks and observations.

Reflecting on the event, Quincey acknowledged there were elements that in hindsight could have been changed for the better, but overall, it was a very positive exercise. A mark of the positivity are the plans already underway for next year. "Today proved that this format is both welcomed and appreciated by many, with wider benefits in terms of increasing understanding and providing valuable networking opportunities," he said.

"Among the ideas for next year include the possibility of stretching it over two days, incorporating a 'hedge school' component one evening, and possibly even a social event.

"For now however, the focus is on compiling the first Diamond Seminar Journal. This will include not just all of the presentations, but also general comment and feedback from each questions and answer session and the panel discussion." It is hoped the journal will be available in about three weeks. In the interim, a call for papers for The Second Annual Diamond Seminar in 2022 has already been issued! For more information contact qdougan01@qub.ac.uk.

MUSEUM NEWS

Centenary stone at Sloan's House



To mark Ulster Day and the Centenary of Northern Ireland, a Centennial Paving Stone has been placed in the Garden of Remembrance at the Museum of Orange Heritage, Sloan's House. This will serve as a reminder of the proud history of our Province over the past 100 years.

Digital aspect helps boost Heritage Week

The Museum of Orange Heritage at Schomberg House used the 2021 Orange Heritage Week to build on the strong digital following for historical information videos. Museum curator Dr. Jonathan Mattison, supported by Outreach Officer David Scott, put together four videos which were shared on social media throughout the week. The videos, which had a strong Centennial focus, featured information on the Royal visit of 1921 and three Northern Ireland Prime Ministers - John Miller Andrews (pictured),



Sir Basil Brooke and Captain Terence O'Neill. All four videos attracted a strong audience online, with each attracting several thousand views.

They can still be viewed on the Museum's Facebook page. There continues to be a dedicated Orange Heritage Week page on the museum website which can be accessed at www.orange-heritage.co.uk/orangeheritageweek. The website contains audio clips, videos and information on historical artefacts and past exhibitions. The museum continues to be open from Monday to Saturday, with the special Centennial exhibition '100 Years, 100 Images' proving popular with visitors. Entry is free.

Twelfth annual Diamond Day Lecture looks at Centenary of Northern Ireland

The 12th annual Diamond Day Lecture, under the auspices of the Friends of Sloan's House, was held in the Museum of Orange Heritage, Loughgall, on Tuesday evening, 21st September, as part of Orange Heritage Week. There was a good attendance of members of the Friends group at the event which was held in line with the current social distancing requirements. Proceedings were chaired by the County Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Denis

Watson, who welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the past year for the museum. The lecture was given by Wor. Bro. Dr. Jonathan Mattison, Museum Curator, who spoke on Northern Ireland: Celebrating our first 100 Years. In a well researched paper, Dr. Mattison examined the many major significant events in the history of our Province over the past century. At the conclusion, supper was provided by Sloan's Coffee Shop.



The Directors of the Museum of Orange Heritage were pleased to welcome Trevor Donnell and Harry Monteith with the Northern Ireland Centenary Mini Cooper to Sloan's House for the annual Diamond Day Lecture. Pictured are the Directors and Wor. Bro. Dr. Jonathan Mattison who gave the lecture this year.



At the Diamond Day Lecture at Sloan's House, Sister Mrs Lily Cornett presented the Museum with a beautiful crystal vase which was produced in 1990 by Tyrone Crystal to mark the Tercentenary of the Battle of the Boyne. It has the Tercentenary logo thereon and is a lovely item for display. Pictured are the County Armagh Grand Orange Lodge Officers and Sister Cornett.

MUSEUM NEWS



Wor. Bro. Eric Glass DCM, QGM was a welcome visitor to the Museum of Orange Heritage during the month of August. Eric was the most highly decorated UDR soldier in the Regiment's history, having been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and Queen's Gallantry Medal for two separate actions. He is pictured next to his image, which appears on the wall of famous Orange personalities.



Visitor from Canada

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland was delighted to welcome the Deputy County Grand Master of Toronto to the Museum of Orange Heritage. Bro. Rick Glover was paying a visit and enjoyed a chat with Chief Executive Iain Carlisle.

MON-SAT (10AM-5PM)
LAST ENTRY 4PM

FREE ENTRY

MUSEUM OF ORANGE HERITAGE

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PULPIT



by Rev. Ian McClean



Our Father who art...

We are all familiar with the Lord's Prayer, so familiar in fact that we could repeat it without even thinking. And that is a problem! Indeed, have you not heard this prayer recited so quickly that those who are repeating it could not possibly be thinking about what they are saying? We would do well therefore to take time to consider what it is that the Lord Jesus has taught us.

A SUITABLE ADDRESS

How do people address you? Surely it depends on their relationship to you; stranger, wife child, colleague, boss, etc., and it also depends on the circumstances; the young soldier may call his superior officer 'general' or 'sir', but at home call the same man 'dad' or 'father.' The form of address can reveal a lot. It can tell not only the relationship but can also show a person's attitude to you, they can be over-familiar or patronising, or even in awe of you. The correct form of address is important. How then ought we to address the Almighty in a way that sets the tone for what we want to say to Him? What is the suitable address? There are many, very many titles for God that He has given to us in the Bible. In Matthew 6:9 we are told by the Lord Jesus "Pray then like this 'Our Father who art in heaven.'"

Why father? Firstly, he is 'Father' to all mankind in general – as Creator. "Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us?" (Malachi 2:10) "one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and all in all." Ephesians 4:6. He is the Father of all in that very general sense. Secondly, he may be called 'Father' because of his external covenant relationship with his people. Exodus 4:22 "Israel is my son, even my firstborn." Isaiah 1:2 "Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand." That is, all members of the visible church and their children can say in that sense 'Father.' But thirdly, in

a far more wonderful and more intimate, exciting, special way, he is called 'Father' by the graces of Regeneration and Adoption – those who are truly 'born again.' (John 3:3) Now clearly it is this third category of people Jesus is speaking about here for he is in this passage addressing his disciples. "Pray then like this." On the other hand, in John chapter 8 Jesus is speaking to the Pharisees. Verses 38 & 44 "I speak of what I have seen with My father, and you do what you have heard from YOUR father." "You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires." He makes it clear that in this very special sense, not everyone knows God as his or her 'father.' Rather we are talking here about what we read in John chapter 1 verse 12. "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become Children of God." Note, not children in the creation sense, nor children as members or adherents of the church, but become children, as Paul puts it in Galatians 3:26 "sons of God through faith."

Let me ask you, are you in that category? Can you call him 'Father' in that very special sense? This is important. There is nothing more important! In the passage quoted in John 8, Jesus makes it clear that there are two families and each one of us is in either one or the other. For those who truly are of the family of God just think about how suitable the title 'Father' is! 1 John 3:1 "see what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called 'children of God'." In Matthew 7:11 Jesus says "If you then, who are evil, know how to give gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven, give good gifts to those who ask him?" Those of us who are fathers – do we not love our children? – and then regret our mistakes, and have to acknowledge that we are imperfect fathers? But he is perfect! His love for his children is infinite! Look at what happened on Calvary! What love!

A SUPERIOR ADDRESS

Not only does the Lord Jesus invite us to call God 'Father,' but he is 'Our Father in heaven.' When we say 'Our Father in heaven' we do not mean that God is confined in any way to any place, no matter how great or how vast. 1 Kings 8:27 "heaven and the highest heavens cannot contain you." Rather, he is as far above earthly kings, as heaven is above the earth. All things are known to him. All things are governed by him. All things are under his rule. As you approach the Great Throne, remember from where it is that you expect the answer. Not from men. Not from earth. But from the Father in Heaven, the one who inhabits the heavens and the earth. If the king were your father you would expect your requests to be answered. How much more confident, encouraged we ought to be when we know that our Father is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Our Father in Heaven. James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down fromthe Father." John Newton puts it well. **Thou art coming to a King Large petitions with thee bring For his grace and power are such None can ever ask too much.** And the wonderful thing is – although he is the Sovereign God and all things are his to give, he is Our Father in Heaven who loves us, who understands us perfectly, who knows our every need, and will meet our every need. Hebrews 4:16 "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

A SHARED ADDRESS

Of course we can know and address God as "My Father." Psalm 89:26 You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation." Jeremiah 3:19 "I thought you would call me 'my Father' and would not turn from following me," But here, Jesus points out to us that we are not alone. We pray in the knowledge that out of every tribe and nation and kindred and tongue the voices of his children rise together. All those for

whom Christ died. Years ago a friend and colleague of mine was called to a church. At his first meeting of Kirk Session he said to the elders "I would like to start a prayer meeting." The response – Silence. "Well you have any objections if I came to the session room to pray and invited anybody to join with me?" "Oh no! Not at all!" Next Lord's Day he announced that he would be in the session room on Wednesday at 8 - to pray, and anybody else would be welcome. Wednesday night. One of those elders joined him. And that was it., for many weeks, just the two of them. Today that church is a vibrant gospel church. Do you see the significance of that first word in the Lord's Prayer? The Lord Jesus encourages us, no, tells us to pray together. "Our Father who art in heaven." Is this not a challenge?

A STIRRING ADDRESS

Just a year ago my wife was in hospital for seven weeks. Covid restrictions were in force. I was allowed to visit her for one hour a week. We communicated by phone and occasionally by facetime (internet facility was poor) What a joy and a delight it was when she got home! Together! Just now we on earth can speak with God who hears us – and that is wonderful! But would it not be better, far better, to be with him? To be in his eternal presence. All who call him 'Father' in that special sense are so aware that we are strangers and pilgrims here. Our real home is where our Father is, our Father's home. In John 14 Jesus speaks to his disciples of going to prepare a place for you. Then he says "In my Father's house...." Don't you want to be with him – no tears, no sorrow, no temptation, no sin? Surely then as we approach him with this address that the Lord Jesus has told us to call him, when we do so with the right attitude, we are holding sweet communion with Our Father in Heaven. And that communion is but a mere hint of that perfect communion that all who, here below, say in faith 'Our Father' will enjoy in his presence for all eternity.

Memorial Service for Bro. William Woodside

A Memorial Service was held in Waringsford Orange Hall recently on the first anniversary of the death of Bro. William Woodside, the Worshipful Master of Waringsford Rising Star LOL 543 (Lower Iveagh District No. 1, Co. Down). Bro. Woodside had only been installed as the WM a few months when the took Covid and, after a lengthy



battle, he succumbed to the virus. The service was conducted by the Lodge Chaplain and County Grand Chaplain, Bro. Rev. Victor Neill. William's two favourite hymns were sung - 'There's Power In The Blood' and 'The Old Rugged Cross'. A tribute was paid to William by his brother-in-law, Bro. Frank Wallace, Past Master of LOL 545, and District Secretary of Lower Iveagh No. 1 District.

Bro. William Wallace, who took over the WM position following the death of Bro. Woodside, played a lovely tribute on the pipes 'Highland Cathedral'. At the service, the Woodside family's kind gift of new WM and DM Collarettes and Cuffs in memory William were dedicated. Two of Bro. Woodside's sons are members of Waringsford Rising Star, Bro. Karl (Secretary) and Bro. Anton, who was just recently elected as Deputy Master of the Lodge.



OBSERVER



Vital role of the Special Constabulary in the 1920s

Policing is always a key ingredient in any society, and never more so than in the new Northern Ireland State 100 years ago, writes Brian Courtney.

This was a period of the utmost importance to the new country, because the IRA campaign of terrorism had destroyed the Royal Irish Constabulary, which had policed the island of Ireland for so long, and had lost hundreds of officers in the violence, and which had been consigned to history by the Treaty, and consequent Partition.

The loss of this distinguished police force meant that the new Northern Ireland would face an extremely difficult period until the formation of its replacement - the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

In order to fill the void between the end of the RIC and the firm establishment of the RUC, the Northern Ireland Government dealt with this problem by creating a Special Constabulary, consisting of three different categories - A, B, and C.

Recruitment to the Ulster Special Constabulary was open to all classes and religions, and contrary to nationalist propaganda, there was no discrimination in recruitment. Indeed, in the early days, a number of Roman Catholics joined the Specials, but due to the fact that the IRA singled them out for murder and intimidation, the number declined significantly.

A large proportion of the new Special Constabulary was recruited from the ranks of ex-servicemen of the 1914-18 War, and members of my own family served in the ranks of the new force.

My grandfather, William Courtney, a proud Shankill Road man, member of a Portadown Orange lodge, in the town which he had made his home after being married, had fought during the Boer War and Great War with the Royal Irish Fusiliers. He joined the A Specials,

which was the full-time section of the Special Constabulary, in 1921, and much of his service was in the Brown Square area of Belfast, close to his birthplace.

Michael Collins and the IRA had decided to do all they could to make it impossible for the new Northern Government to exist, and he sent a number of hardened members of the IRA from Cork, and other republican strongholds, to bolster the efforts of the Northern divisions of the organisation.

My grandfather told me about ferocious battles between the Specials and the IRA gunmen, in places like Carrick Hill and what he called 'The Marrowbone', in the Oldpart district. Republican snipers were attacking Protestant shipyard workers from the Shankill and Crumlin roads as they made their way to their work, and a number were killed.

Mills bombs were also thrown into trams, which had special security grills provided to hamper the efforts of the terrorists, and it succeeded to a large extent. My grandad said that one of the terrible incidents was the death of two young children when a bomb was thrown into their house in Brown Street, intended for their father.

There were two other classes of the Specials, the B section, which was part-time, but very active in supporting the A Specials.

The C Specials guarded bridges, factories, railway stations, and other important buildings. My maternal grandfather, Alexander Foster, a veteran of the Great War in which he had served with the Royal Irish Rifles, was one of a number of employees of a Portadown linen company, who served in the C Specials.

They guarded the factory at night, as arson attacks had been expected, following the burning of Richhill railway station by the IRA. The IRA campaign lasted for nearly two years, and there is no doubt that had it succeeded, it could have made it almost impossible for

the new Belfast Government to exist. That it failed to do so, in spite of sustained attacks, the murder of many citizens, including two Unionist MPs, was due in large measure to the success of the 45,000 strong Special Constabulary.

A total of 49 Special constables were among the 428 people who lost their lives in the conflict, many of them in the border areas where IRA activity was particularly intense.

My uncle, David Devlin, serving with the A Specials in Armagh city, had a narrow escape when the vehicle in which he and two other comrades were travelling, was ambushed at Crossbane, in South Armagh.

David, and another special constable called Veitch, had been travelling in a car with District Inspector T.P.R. Kenny, who was to become a senior officer in the newly-formed Royal Ulster Constabulary.

They escaped the ambush, without a scratch, in spite of a fusillade of shots from rifles as the IRA opened fire on their car. The incident was reported in the national press at the time, and there is no doubt that the three Specials were fortunate, to say the least, in surviving such a well planned and intensive ambush.

The IRA operations were also hit by the civil war which broke out in the South between the Pro-Treaty and anti-Treaty sections of the IRA, meaning that most of the Cork gunmen were moved away from Belfast, and other areas of Northern Ireland. However, there is no doubt at all that it was the efficiency and local knowledge of the Special Constabulary which did most to affect the outcome of the conflict. The year 1923 saw the end of the IRA campaign, and with the formation of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the A and C classes of the Special Constabulary were disbanded, but the B Special Constabulary remained in existence until 1970.

UNIONIST UNITY

There has been a lot of talk and speculation recently about the possibility of the three main Unionist parties parking their differences during next year's Assembly election in order to ensure that a single unionist candidate can be agreed, in constituencies, to maximise the pro-Union vote, and prevent Sinn Féin from becoming the biggest party in the Assembly,

Judging by the early response to the suggestion, I wouldn't be too optimistic about the chances of his happening. I do know, however, that in the past year, chatting to a wide range of unionists, including readers of the Orange Standard, their unanimous view was that there should be one single Unionist party in Northern Ireland. Several quoted the famous rallying cry of Edward Carson, 'united we stand, divided we fall', and all pointed to the changing demographics in Northern Ireland, and the gap between unionists and nationalists narrowing. I share their feeling, but admit that differences between the unionist political parties, at the moment, seem unbridgeable. However, as a prime minister once said, 'A week is a long time in politics', and perhaps by the time next May comes round, our unionist politicians, of whatever hue, will sink their differences, at least for the most important election in many years in this province.

Standard put Craigavon in the spotlight back in 1976

The new city of Craigavon, which takes in the two towns of Portadown and Lurgan, didn't enjoy a great image for decades after it was launched in the 1960s, and when it was mentioned at all, there were jokes about the many roundabouts in the borough.

All that is changing fast, and the recent Royal visit of the Earl and Countess of Wessex to the marvellous new leisure centre at South Lakes, showed the new Craigavon. A fast developing centre now includes a fine Civic Centre (pictured), courthouse, Rushmere shopping centre, and government buildings.

New private estates are springing



up everywhere in Craigavon, and the social housing estates are also of a good standard, in contrast to some of the earliest estates which were emptied and demolished because the buildings were not of the finest standard. In the early years of the new city,

the Government attempted to attract families from other parts of Northern Ireland by providing generous financial grants, but excluded families from the neighbouring towns of Portadown and Lurgan, and other parts of the city's hinterland.

That was a mistake, as many of the newcomers stayed a few years, and then pulled out, defeating the whole object of the financial incentives which was supposed to provide stability. That scheme was scrapped, and in recent years there has been a transformation of Craigavon with fine new estates and a stable population.

The Orange Standard spotlighted Craigavon in 1976, with special articles which highlighted the fact that housing allocations by the then Commission and the Housing Executive were not reflecting the religious demographics of the area, with only 30 per cent of new houses being allocated to Protes-

tants.

The Orange Standard had also called for more housing in Protestant areas of Belfast like the Shankill and Sandy Row, where large swathes of empty spaces existed, in place of once thriving communities.

The Standard's campaign for fair play for Protestants in Craigavon, and in parts of Belfast, was supported by Unionist MPs at Stormont, who took up the issue with the Craigavon Commission and Housing Executive. Both authorities denied that there had been discriminations towards Protestants, but promised to keep the issue under review.

Why Amelia Earhart 'flew home' to the land of her ancestors in 1932



THE sound of an aeroplane circling above Londonderry in May 1932 was sufficiently unusual to attract the attention of locals.

The bright red plane appeared to be searching for somewhere to land, then disappeared from sight in the direction of Culmore. For Amelia Earhart, who had piloted her aircraft along across the Atlantic, the flight was about to come to an end; she had been flying low in mist, following the Great Northern Railway line, and she was about to touch down in a field owned by Robert Gallagher.

The incident captured the imagination of North America and Europe and it was not long before the media were despatched to get a view of Amelia and her aircraft.

The Northern Whig of May 23, 1932, outlined that "A very short time after citizens of Derry were reading in the morning papers an account of the start of Miss Earhart's lone flight across the Atlantic the intrepid airwoman was in their midst".

On May 20, the paper had been among those reporting on the progress of Miss Earhart from New Jersey to New Brunswick and thence to Harbour Grace, Newfoundland. The Reuter news agency had reported that "Miss Amelia Earhart landed here (St. John, New Brunswick) this evening. She is taking off for Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, in the morning. She hopes to reach Europe tomorrow night..."

The Ballymena Weekly Telegraph was among the newspapers which took up the story, the edition of May 28 detailing that Earhart – who was married to author and publisher G. P. Putman – had taken off from Harbour Grace at 10.51pm with the intention of flying to Paris.

However, four hours into the flight, a fault developed with the exhaust, which resulted in flames issuing from a large hole. The pilot decided that it was as risky to go back and try and land

in the dark as it was to carry on. Later there was also a gasoline leak, something which could have been a major issue combined with a sparking exhaust, and Amelia later told of fuel dripping down her neck. But, she said, "I knew that the only course open to me was to go onward...the leaking did not greatly worry me, because I had confidence in my machine."

The flight had also seen her endure storms, mist, rain, fog and a bitter cold, and she told the media: "I am afraid I'm a bit deaf after the terrible roar of the engines in my ears all the time, but at any rate I've done it," the 34 year-old said.

She had indeed achieved three records through her historic flight. It was the first time a pilot had flown solo across the Atlantic, and she was the first woman to cross the Atlantic twice (the first time in 1928 was as a passenger). She was also, of course, the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic – which is why her flight is most remembered.

Earhart believed she had crossed over land at Galway and then she flew northward, eventually using the railway line as a guide.

A short time after touching down in the field at Culmore she was in the home of Peter McCallion and his wife, and then Robert Gallagher arrived and took her to his house, where Mrs. Gallagher had, in the true tradition of Ulster hospitality, made some tea. Amelia had the tea and then was driven to the post office in Londonderry to cable her husband and let her know she had safely arrived.

She would receive an affectionate telegram back from him and later spoke to him on the phone. There was also a telegram from the Duke of Abercorn, Governor of Northern Ireland, welcoming her to the country on behalf of the people of Ulster.

The American guest stayed with the Gallaghers until the next day when she was flown to England, and



Left: Crowds gather to see Earhart and her plane.

Below left: Amelia Earhart.

Below: A newspaper photograph from the Northern Whig showing Earhart with her aircraft (Amelia).



would later be hosted by American Ambassador A. W. Mellon in London and Lady Astor in the Houses of Parliament.

There was a large send off as massive crowds gathered to bid her farewell from the Maiden City; "So densely packed was the excited crowd that the police had some difficulty in clearing a path before the machine prepared for her was able to take off," the Weekly Telegraph reported.

A reminder of the dangers of flight was provided through the tragic crash involving a monoplane flown by pilot I. N. C. Clarke and carrying a photographer named V. Barton. It was returning from Northern Ireland to Glasgow when it crashed near Stranraer, both men being killed.

Amelia Earhart would have been unaware of this incident as she was flown from Aldergrove to Blackpool and then Hanworth Aerodrome in London. When in London, amidst all the flurry and excitement surrounding her achievement, she did not forget her hosts.

At some point Amelia found the time to visit a toy shop and purchase and despatch toys for the Gallagher children.

The Londonderry Sentinel of May 31 reported that she had sent a model aeroplane to the young boy, perhaps not at all a surprising choice! Earhart's own plane was dismantled and taken to Belfast by road en route to London. It was then shipped across the Atlantic,

as the pilot seemed content to rest on her laurels over that one historic Atlantic crossing at that stage. Amelia Earhart would continue to seek adventure in the air.

Sadly, she and her navigator (Fred Noonan) disappeared in 1937 in a Lockheed Model 10-E Electra aircraft as she tried to become the first female to complete a circumnavigational flight of the globe. The two were last seen in New Guinea close to the final leg of their flight and it is presumed they lost their lives in the Pacific Ocean. It was a few weeks before her fortieth birthday. Amelia Earhart had many claims to fame. Born in Kansas in July 1897, she received the US Distinguished Flying Cross after piloting a Lockheed Vega

on a non-stop solo transatlantic flight in 1932, was one of the first aviators to promote commercial air travel and wrote best-selling books about her flying experiences.

One amazing footnote in the history of her arrival in Londonderry was that when Amelia landed at Culmore in 1932 she was just a short distance away from the birthplace of her great-grandfather, John Paton in 1794.

In 1933 she was in fact the guest at the annual dinner of the Ulster-Irish Society of New York and spoke of her ancestry. The Society presented her with a roll of linen woven from flax grown in the field where she had landed in 1932 after her outstanding flight across the Atlantic.



News from the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland



Tens of thousands of spectators packed the streets to watch the parade.



County Grand Lodge of Glasgow marks 200th anniversary of Orange parades

Saturday, 18th September, 2021 saw the County Grand Lodge of Glasgow hold their Covid delayed Boyne Celebrations. This event marked the 200th anniversary of Orange parades in Glasgow.

Fittingly, The Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, and Grand Orange of England were represented by some of their senior leaders, including Brother Jim McHarg, Grand Master; Brother Edward Stevenson, Grand Master; and Brother Tim Lords, Depute Grand Master. Edward McGonnell, County Grand Master of Glasgow, stated his pleasure at such a large turnout on parade, with tens of thousands lining the streets in support of the parade.



The County Grand Lodge colour party held a service of remembrance at the Cenotaph in George Square Glasgow prior to joining with the main parade.



Grand Master hosts dinner in Glasgow



The Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, Wor. Bro. Jim McHarg, hosted a dinner in Glasgow on Friday, 17th September. Among the guests were Grand Lodge of Ireland Officers. Main speakers were James "Buller" Reid and John Gahagan. Also pictured is former Rangers FC player Derek Johnstone.



ORANGE NEWS

Queen's Platinum Jubilee offers another opportunity for significant celebrations

2022 marks one of the most significant landmark events in the history of the British Monarchy.

For it is the year in which Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee - that's seventy years of service to the Nation.

Having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 when Her Majesty was 25 years old, she has been a figurehead of the Royal Family for generations.

The Royal Family has announced that there will be year-long Platinum Jubilee celebrations throughout the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and around the world as communities come together to celebrate The Queen's historic reign.

Throughout the year, Her Majesty and members of the Royal Family will travel around the country to undertake a variety of engagements to mark this historic occasion culminating with the focal point of the Platinum Jubilee Weekend in June 2022.

An extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June, will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone.

The four days of celebrations will include public events and community activities, as well as national moments of reflection on The Queen's 70 years of service.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Private, District and County Lodges to be part of the

celebrations in their communities.

Details of some ideas have already been outlined (see below) that may be appropriate, but there are many others.

Grand Lodge will be encouraging as many Lodges to hold events as possible in recognition of this important anniversary.

We have seen throughout recent months with Centennial events the level of interest such occasions can generate in the local community.

Look to plan significant events that will make the Platinum Jubilee stand out.

Why not organise a street party with food, games for children, decorations and musical entertainment?

As highlighted by Gary McAllister in last month's Orange Standard, an arch would be a great way to mark the Platinum Jubilee year and also boost Orange culture.

One simple way that can form part of any Lodge's plans would be to take part in The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) - a unique, UK-wide tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, by inviting people to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee." This idea follows on from the many trees that were planted by the Institution throughout the Centennial year.

No doubt more information of local events to be held here in Northern Ireland will become clear in the coming months, however there are lots of options, so now is the time to start giving it some thought.



Platinum Jubilee Weekend schedule of central events

Plans have already been unveiled for events for the Platinum Jubilee Weekend in June 2022.

THURSDAY 2ND JUNE

The Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour): Over 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians will come together in the traditional Parade to mark The Queen's official birthday, usually held on the second Saturday in June. Beginning at Buckingham Palace, the Parade will move down The Mall to Horse Guard's Parade, joined by Members of the Royal Family on horseback and in carriages. The Parade will close with the traditional RAF fly-past, watched by The Queen and Members of the Royal Family from the Buckingham Palace balcony.

Platinum Jubilee Beacons: The United Kingdom's long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations

with the lighting of beacons will be continued to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories.

For the first time, beacons will also be lit in each of the capital cities of the Commonwealth countries to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

FRIDAY 3RD JUNE

Service of Thanksgiving: A Service of Thanksgiving for The Queen's reign will be held at St Paul's Cathedral. Further events will be announced in due course.

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE

The Derby at Epsom Downs: Her Majesty The Queen, accompanied by Members of the Royal Family, will attend the Derby at Epsom Downs. Platinum Party at the Palace:

The BBC will stage and broadcast a special live concert from Buckingham Palace that will bring together some of the world's biggest entertainment stars to celebrate the most significant and joyous moments from The Queen's seven decade reign. Members of the public will be invited to apply to attend this special event and details of the

ballot for UK residents to secure audience tickets will be released in due course.

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE

The Big Jubilee Lunch: Every year since the idea began in 2009 The Big Lunch has encouraged communities to celebrate their connections and get to know each other a little

bit better, coming together in a spirit of fun and friendship. In 2022 The Big Lunch will bring the Jubilee celebrations into the heart of every community.

People are invited to share friendship, food and fun with neighbours as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. A Big Jubilee Lunch can be big or small - street party or picnic, tea and cake or a garden barbecue. The Big Lunch provides tips and ideas for hosting an event. The Platinum Jubilee Pageant: A pageant featuring over 5,000 people from across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth will take place against the backdrop of Buckingham Palace and the surrounding streets. It will combine street arts, theatre, music, circus, carnival and costume and celebrate the service of Her Majesty's reign, as well as honouring the collective service of people and communities across the country.



Orange Institution has always marked Her Majesty's jubilee milestones

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland has marked the many milestones in Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's reign. Many of which have been covered in the pages of the Orange Standard. As part of the celebrations to mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland sent an address of loyalty. The address, together with an impressive range of images, formed a stunning feature in the Orange Standard, which you can see below. It was accompanied by a series of facts

about The Queen, which had been obtained from the official website of the British Monarchy. It really was an impressive tribute to a wonderful monarch. The text of the address read as follows: May it please Your Majesty, The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland on behalf of its membership across the entire island of Ireland and representing the jurisdictions of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland presents to Your Majesty its loyal greetings on this momentous occasion of Your Majesty's Diamond

Jubilee. We share with Your Majesty a steadfast faith in God and our Saviour Jesus Christ as a motivating factor for our actions and give thanks to God for your selfless duty and service shown to the Nation and to the peoples of the Commonwealth. Your example during your long reign has inspired and touched the hearts of many. We renew our commitment to serve you with loyalty in the years ahead. We are grateful that in the past Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh have had occasion to enjoy Orange culture and tradition during your visits to Northern Ireland and we hope that this may be the case in future. We are mindful that many of our individual members, in different walks of life and service, have met you and have greatly appreciated the opportunity to do so. We look forward to your visit to Northern Ireland as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and assure you of the continuing prayerful support of the Loyal Orange Institution for the tireless and selfless duty which you continue to perform on behalf of our Nation and the Commonwealth Nations. Humbly begging God's blessing on Your Majesty, we assure you of our continued prayers, service and support."

In 2002, the Golden Jubilee was front page news for the Orange Standard, with the then Grand Master Wor. Bro. Robert Saulters writing his views for the readers. Going back even further through the archives, the Silver Jubilee in 1977 saw portraits of Her Majesty and The Duke of Edinburgh (pictured to the left) made



ble from the House of Orange, which was then based on Belfast's Dublin Road. Available for £1 each - plus the 10p postage and packaging - I'm sure many readers of a certain age will recall these portraits hanging in Orange Halls around the country.



ORANGE NEWS



Courtyard at Dan Winter's Cottage hosted the annual Diamond Anniversary Service.

Diamond Anniversary Service takes place at Dan Winter's Cottage

There was a good turnout of Sisters and Brethren for the Battle of the Diamond Anniversary Service on the afternoon of Sunday, 19th September, held in the courtyard at Dan Winter's ancestral cottage. This service is held on the Sunday closest to the anniversary date of 21st September and is usually held in the Diamond Memorial Orange Hall. The parade was led by the Sgt. White Memorial Flute Band, Bush, Dungannon, and the Epilogue was give by Rev. Carlton Baxter, Rector of Kilmore and The Dobbin. Several Co. Armagh Grand



Orange Lodge Officers attended, along with District Officers from Loughgall and Portadown, also the Portadown Ex-Servicemen's Lodge.

70 years of service recognised at Cregagh Defenders LOL 1588



Worshipful Brother David Hay PM, a member of Cregagh Defenders LOL 1588, Belfast District No. 6, joined the lodge aged 18 in 1951. He was Worshipful Master in the Tercentenary

year 1990, and celebrated 70 years of service to his lodge and the Institution at the September 2021 meeting of the lodge in Ballymacarrett Orange Hall, East Belfast.

David is pictured receiving his certificate from the Worshipful District Master, Wor. Bro. Sam Sharkie, accompanied by Wor. Bro. Gerry Cupples, a member of District Committee.

Glasgow visit



Two members of the Institution from Northern Ireland recently attended the County Grand Lodge of Glasgow's Big Walk 2021. Brother Wilson McLeister, LOL 1071 McNeillstown True Blues, County Antrim, and Brother Timothy Davidson, LOL 161 Lislea Purple Marksmen, County Londonderry. The brethren would like to pass their thanks to the James Thomson Memorial Lodge of Govan LOL 355 for allowing them to walk in such a fantastic parade.



DAERA Minister Edwin Poots MLA and Chair of Mid Ulster District Council Cllr Paul McLean at Pomeroy District Sports and Cultural Association grounds to view recent works carried out to the car park, drainage and new electricity supply, supported by Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership (NI Rural Development Programme) and Mid Ulster District Council. Chairperson of PDSCA Keith Buchanan MLA commented: "This £70,000 investment is another phase at our facility. This work will enable our group to develop and operate with more capacity, we look forward to developing our grounds further in Pomeroy."

ORANGE NEWS

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Memorial plaque dedicated to Bro. Johnston Mulligan

On the evening of Friday, 27th August, Beragh LOL 796 held a service to unveil and dedicate a memorial plaque to the late esteemed Bro. Johnston Mulligan, a stalwart member of the Loyal Orders.

The service and dedication was led by Wor. Bro. Canon Alan Irwin, District Chaplain of Sixmilecross District Orange Lodge No. 7. Bro. Marshall Fenton, WM of Beragh LOL 796, welcomed all to the service and said it was unfortunate that Covid had meant a scaled down event than would have been in normal times.

The first Bible reading was taken from Psalm 127 read by Bro. Jamie Brown, Superintendent of Sixmilecross District Junior Lodge, and the second reading from 1st Corinthians 3 v 10-17 read by Bro. James McKnight, Chaplain of Beragh LOL 796.

The hymns "Shall We Gather At The River" and "I Vow To Thee My Country" were sung with the musical accompaniment of Mrs Bethany Barton, of Newtownsville Accordion Band. Canon Irwin's address focussed on the themes of faith, duty, and loyalty - key parts of Johnston's life and in all he involved himself in. The memorial plaque was unveiled by Richard and James Mulligan, sons of the late Johnston. Following the Act of Dedication, tributes and memories of the late Johnston were expressed by his son, Richard,



WM Marshall Fenton, Beragh LOL 796; William Crawford, DM Beragh LOL 796. Back Row, Ken McDowell, WDM Sixmilecross District Lodge No 7; Ross McKnight, DDM Sixmilecross District and Secretary Beragh LOL 796



Canon Alan Irwin, Sixmilecross District Chaplain, and Richard Mulligan, son of the late Johnston Mulligan



William Mulligan brother of the late Johnston and the Grand Master Edward Stevenson

on behalf of the Mulligan Family, Bro. Edward Stevenson, Grand Master of GOLI, Bro. Wilbert Buchannan, Grand Master of the County Tyrone Junior Grand Lodge, Bro. Ken McDowell on behalf of Sixmilecross District Orange Lodge, Canon Irwin on behalf of Sixmilecross

RAPC, Bro. Alan Byers of the former Beragh Pipe Band, Bro. King Anderson of Sixmilecross LOL 406 and Sixmilecross Pipe Band, Bro. Samuel Caldwell on behalf of Beragh LOL 796 and Bro. Rowland Mulligan a stalwart of Junior Orange Lodge in Co Tyrone.

Bro. William Crawford, deputy Master of Beragh LOL 796, expressed thanks on behalf of the Lodge for all who had taken part and attended and invited all to stay for light refreshment afterwards. The service concluded with the National Anthem



Bethany Barton Newtownsville Accordion Band, Jamie Brown Superintendent Sixmilecross District Junior Lodge and James McKnight Chaplain Beragh LOL 796

ORANGE NEWS

Presentation of long service certificates and jewels

At their August meeting, the members of Searce Temperance LOL 225 had the great pleasure of being in attendance while Worshipful Master Bro. Ian Copeland presented two members with long service

certificates from the Lodge and long service jewels from the members' families. The lodge would like to offer congratulations to Brother Jim Henning on achieving 50 years (it was not possible to present this last year due

to Covid-19) and Bro. Trevor McCartney on achieving 60 years this month. Both members thanked the lodge and reminisced about their experiences after joining the lodge so many years ago.



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Mount Ida LOL 26A



Three members of Mount Ida LOL 26A were recognised for their long service. Bro. John Steenson, 50 years service; Bro. Samuel Herron, 50 years service; and Bro. Cecil Todd, 36 years as Treasurer; received medals at a recent lodge meeting.



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ORANGE NEWS

Young Orange men raise £1,000 to support Suicide Awareness Charity

Earlier this year, members of the Limavady District Orange Youth Group took part in a hike across Binevenagh Mountain in aid of Limavady Initiative for the Prevention of Suicide (LIPS). Joined by some of the District Officers and members of the local bands, the group trekked a nine mile route through local forests, including a stop at Binevenagh lake. Some of those who took part in the hike recently handed over a cheque for £1,000 raised through sponsorship to Sam Barr, from LIPS, at a presentation held in Limavady Orange Heritage Centre.



Cheque presentations by the Orange and Black at Killyclooney

Killyclooney LOL 287 recently presented a cheque for £600 to the local branch of Marie Curie. This sum was raised through a charity cricket match between the Strabane Orange and Black Districts held at Donemana Cricket Club. Marie Curie was chosen so that members could help with the costs involved in the care and support of those with terminal illness. Pictured above are Mr David Witherow, Convenor of the Strabane Branch of Marie Curie, receiving a cheque from Bro. James Kee, WM Killyclooney LOL 287. The members of Killyclooney RBP 64 presented their cheque for £600 to the staff of the Sperrin Room, Cancer Care Unit in Altnagelvin Hospital. This was their sum of money which was raised through the cricket match. The Sperrin Room was chosen in appreciation of the personal care and treatment given by their staff to some of our members affected by cancer. Pictured below are staff from the Sperrin Room receiving the cheque from Derek McDermott, Strabane District Master, and Ian Donnell, District Chaplain.



Presentation to Drew Nelson Legacy Project

At the Grand Lodge Meeting in June, members of Rising Sons of Portadown LOL 273 handed over a cheque for a £1,000 to Deputy Grand Master Wor. Bro. Harold

Henning for the Drew Nelson Legacy Project. The money was raised by members of the Lodge cycling around all 22 Orange Hall on 12th July 2020. Pictured presenting

the cheque is Wor. Bro. Alastair Power, Secretary LOL 273; Wor. Bro Harold Henning, Deputy Grand Master and Bro. Graeme Steenson Deputy Master.

The BIG Macmillan Car Show 2021

MOTOR MOUTH



with Graham Baalham-Curry

The last time I attended a car show hosted by the Turkington family from Portadown it was bitterly cold and very wet, thankfully the evening of Thursday 16 September was a very different story. Welcome to 'The BIG Macmillan Car Show 2021' held within the grounds of the family business, Turkington Windows & Conservatories HQ on Mahon Road, Portadown. This is the third time the family has organised a charity car show where all makes and models, spanning many decades, as well as bikes, tractors and everything in between, is welcomed.

In 2018 the event was held at the former B&Q site in Craigavon, raising much needed funds for Christian charity, Reach Mentoring. A year later and the The BIG Macmillan Car Show was created to bring like-minded enthusiasts together in aid of Macmillan care Northern Ireland, raising over £13,000. Organizers were forced to take a sabbatical in 2020 and until just five weeks ago, nothing was planned for an event this year.

As a family who have petrol running through their veins, putting together a show like this at short notice is always going to attract crowds, no matter how little notice there is. That said, an event seeing 300+ cars and even more spectators, takes a serious effort which is undertaken by a vast team of volunteers. Arriving at the show was a spectacle in itself. After passing the BMW M135i X-Drive from recently formed Police Service of Northern Ireland's ANPR Interceptor, fans of the most famous Turkington, Colin, (but is he the fastest Turk?), had the chance to see two of his former championship winning BMW racing cars.

Across from these sat three immaculate Ford Focus RS50's, of which not many exist and from here you had the chance to admire a few conservatories before entering the main arena. With light falling faster than many photogra-



phers wished, the floodlit area was packed with an amazingly eclectic array of everything automotive. A few highlights for me include the former Didier Auriol ex-works Toyota Corolla WRC, with matching period service lorry and trailer. The Red 1970's Ginetta caught my eye as I am used to seeing much more modern, non-road-legal versions racing around Kirkistown.

Finally, it was amazing to finally see in person, the almost 70-year-old GMC truck built by Geddis Redman, of Redman Engineering, having followed its bare shell rebuild and reengi-

neering over the last couple of years. When chatting with me towards the end of the event, Gary Turkington commented, "Tonight wouldn't be possible without a lot of support from members of staff, especially Kathryn Irvine who has been the main instigator behind it all. "We have been able to provide the yard and the facilities, but the event is only a success from the people who comes to support it and they have in their droves, as you have seen tonight. The Mustang Club and Ford RS Owners Club have been a great support, but it's very much down to

each and every individual with their cars to come out and support us." Gary continued, "We only decided five weeks ago that we were doing the show, so it's been a big effort [from a lot of volunteers] to get us to this point tonight. We've approximately 300 vehicles here tonight and there has been huge support from many local businesses. As a family, the Turkington's are incredibly known within the motorsport fraternity as Gary explains, "Being known for racing and being petrol-heads ourselves will of course help attract people. Dad used to rally and Mum used

to navigate for him, Colin and James have both raced saloons for years, while I race karts. It's in the blood. "Ultimately, the reason we have done this event is for my Mum. She passed away three years ago and that was the driver of this becoming the BIG Macmillan Car Show. And, I think cancer affects so many people that's also what helps bring people out as it's something that will have affected most people here tonight in some way." On walking around the show I noted seeing the current Mayor, and a few former Mayor's of the Borough, as well as an MLA,

highlighting the wide-ranging support that this BIG Macmillan show generates. Posting on the events Facebook page a few days after the event, show organisers commented, "What a night! What can we say about The BIG Macmillan Car Show 2021? We are totally overwhelmed by the generosity & support we received on Thursday night. Can we thank you ALL for making this a huge success, we hope the money raised will go to good use for Macmillan in Northern Ireland." To date, this year's event has raised at least £17,000. A monumental effort from all involved. Well done!



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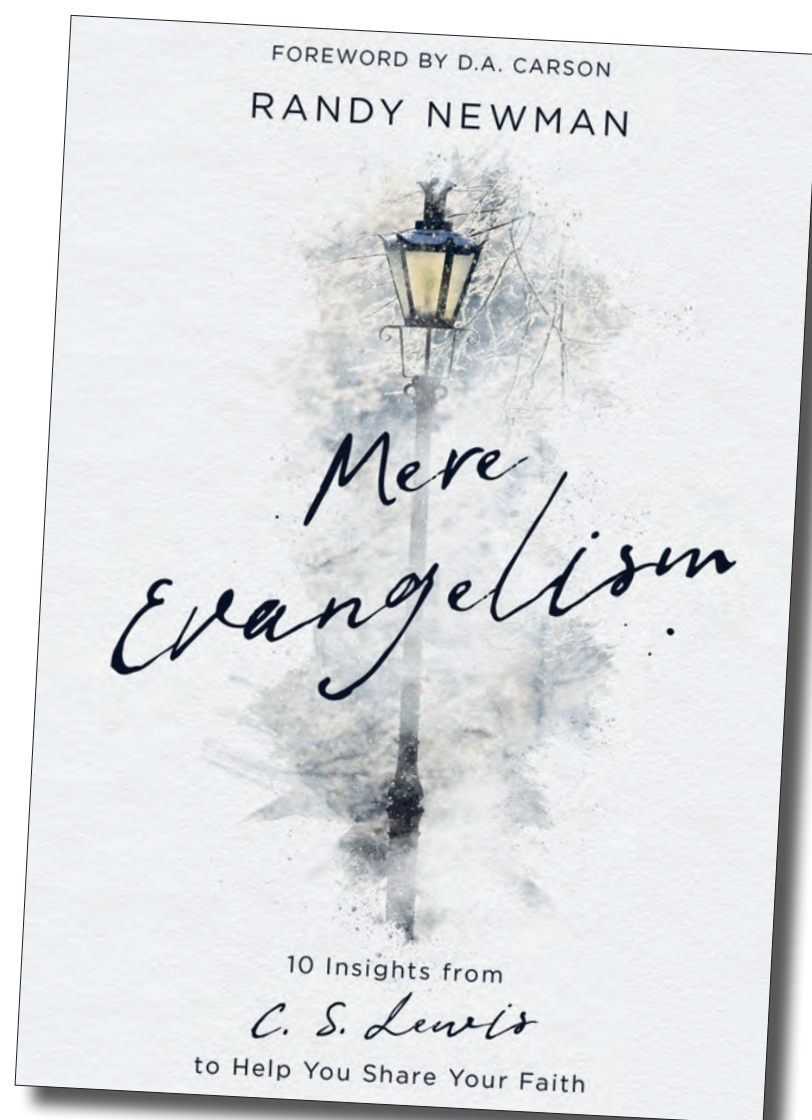
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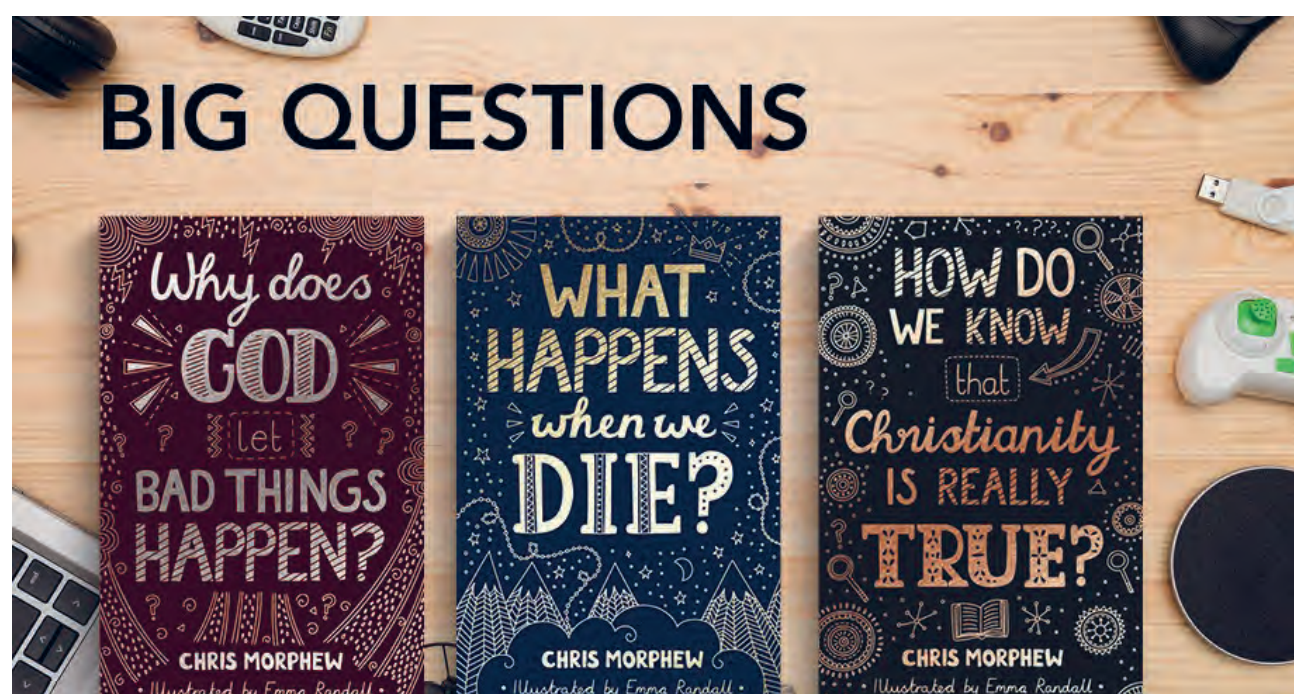
C.S. Lewis was used by God in the conversions of countless people, from friends and acquaintances in his own lifetime to modern-day readers of books such as *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *Mere Christianity* (the most influential Christian book of the 20th century). As Tim Keller comments, "C.S. Lewis was incredibly skilled at getting Christianity across in a way that's powerful to thoughtful people." So, if we want help with evangelism, there is much we can learn from the clarity and imagination of this hugely influential Christian writer.

You may feel inadequate to the task; after all, there is only one C.S. Lewis. But evangelist Randy Newman skilfully helps us to apply the methods Lewis used (storytelling, humour, imagery and more) in our own conversations.

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Chris Morphew is like Tim Keller for teens. In these short books, he tackles some of today's tough questions with Scripture, wisdom and clarity—and just the right amount of fun to keep young readers turning the page.

Arlene's recipes

Apple frangipane tart

Get into the autumn vibe - season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, and create a dazzling centre-piece with this gorgeous tart made with an almond frangipane filling, light flaky pastry and slices of juicy apples, plums or pears.

1 x 375g sheet ready-rolled shortcrust pastry
 100g butter, softened
 125g caster sugar, plus 1 tbsp extra
 2 eggs beaten
 1 tsp almond extract
 175g ground almonds
 50g plain flour, plus extra for dusting
 2 dessert apples, cored and sliced

2 tablespoons apricot jam
 icing sugar, to dust.
 30 minutes to prepare and 55 minutes to cook.

1. Lightly dust your work surface with flour. Unroll the pastry and roll out a little wider, then use to line a 23cm fluted tart tin. Cut off a little excess pastry and roll into a ball, dip in some flour and use to push the pastry well into the corners and fluted sides. Cut off the overhanging pastry with a sharp knife. Chill for 30 mins.
2. Meanwhile, make the frangipane. Using a mixer cream the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Add the almond extract to

the beaten eggs and beat into the creamed butter and sugar mixture, a little at a time, beating well after each addition. Finally, gently fold in the almonds and flour.

3. Heat oven to gas 4, 180oC, fan 160oC. Spoon the frangipane into the tart case, smoothing the surface. Arrange the apple slices, slightly overlapping, over the top, pressing slightly into the frangipane. Sprinkle over 1 tbsp caster sugar, place the tin on a tray and bake for 45-55 mins, until the pastry is golden and the fruit tender.
4. Heat the apricot jam with a splash of water in a small saucepan. Stir well

and then pass through a sieve to make a smooth apricot glaze. Brush the glaze over the warm tart. Allow the tart to cool on a wire rack. Finish with a

dusting of icing sugar.

Cooks Tips:
 Try using sliced pears or plums instead of apples! If using plums, try spread-

ing a thin layer of plum jam over the pastry before adding the frangipane mixture.
 Delicious served warm with vanilla ice cream!



Gardener's Corner

by Beth Lunney

I always think autumn is one of the nicest times of the year. I love the colours and the trees are taking on those colours already. We have plenty of autumn colour on the Nursery Centre - trees and shrubs for gardens and heathers, winter bedding, perennials and shrubs for containers or flower beds. We have a lovely batch of Asters this autumn. The variety is Aster 'Blue Lapis' (pictured right) and the colour of the flowers is a true blue with a large yellow centre. It is considered to be one of the best blue asters. There is a lovely purple-pink variety called 'Pink Topaz' as well. Dark green leaves provide a lovely back drop



to the flowers. These asters are commonly known as Michaelmas Daisies which flower between late summer and into autumn. Michaelmas Day was the 29th of September (old calendar would have been 10th October) and would have been much celebrated before the Reformation. For many years now I have been a bit loathed to stock Michaelmas Daisies as they are very susceptible to mildew which can take hold in them very quickly however these more modern varieties are resistant to mildew which is a great bonus. These plants are compact and grow to around 30cm and are loved by bees and butterflies at

the end of summer. They prefer a sunny position in moist but well drained soil. They will start dying back as winter progresses but as they are perennial will start to grow back as spring takes hold. Stems of these asters can be used as a cut flower. Something that will bring fiery tones to any border or pot is a lovely heather, Erica sparsa 'Orange Savannah' (inset, right). Foliage underneath is lime-green but the outside foliage is golden yellow with orange stems and as the autumn progresses the foliage takes on a fiery orange colour and is very striking. Tiny, small, pale-pinkish-mauve flowers that almost look like fluff start at the bottom of the stems and work their way up the stems which gives an unusual contrast. This plant prefers full sun or partial shade in moist



but well-drained acid soil. The stems of this heather can be used in a vase or to enhance other floral arrangements. Our Fatsia japonicas (pictured left) are lovely at the moment. The common name for these plants is Castor Oil Plant. These plants are evergreen and prefer partial or full shade in fact

the leaves can become yellow if they are in full sun. Fatsia are fantastic in a large pot and can give a tropical or exotic feel to a dark corner of a patio or border. Large, glossy, dark green, palmate leaves are these plants main attraction though they do produce strange little ball-shaped, creamy coloured flow-

ers in autumn which are sometimes followed by black berries. These plants are native to Japan, Korea and Taiwan and prefer moist but well-drained soil and some protection from very cold winds. Shoots that are spoiling the overall look of the plant can be pruned lightly in mid to late spring.

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Sloan's House hosts BBQ for museum volunteers



A great evening of food and fellowship was had at the BBQ for the volunteers at the Museum of Orange Heritage, Sloan's House, Loughgall. Good to have a couple of special guests - Carla Lockhart MP and her family, and Hilda Winter.





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