



# Lecale News

Newsletter No. 42

January 2018

## Anniversary Dates for Your Diary

Throughout 2018, our Society will be celebrating seventy continuous years exploring our heritage. As well as our usual programme of lectures, the Society has organised some further events for the year ahead and would like to give you advance notice of them in this newsletter.

### January Lecture

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm

Join us at the Museum for Eoin Halpin's talk on recent investigations on Cathedral Hill.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### President

Walter Love MBE

#### Chairman

Berkley Farr

#### Vice-Chairman

Roderick Downer

#### Secretary

Patrick Cross

#### Treasurer

Philip Blair

#### Membership Registrar

Wendy Osborne OBE

#### Press Officer

Kathleen Gill (028 44 841621)

#### Committee Members

James Elliott

Una Fitzsimons

Anne Liggett

Marian McGreevy



A detail of the mural in Cathedral View Tea Room at Down County Museum showing how the re-created cross will look.



The three remaining fragments of St Patrick's Cross, in the porch of Down Cathedral, are scanned in preparation for a digital re-creation of the complete cross, and in turn, a full scale Mourne granite replica.

### Fundraising Table Quiz

**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 (8pm start)**

**Denvir's Coaching Inn, Downpatrick**

In recent years the Society has run two very successful table quizzes, which helped raise funds for the Society's work.

This year's quiz will be an effort on behalf of the Society to raise a donation to Down County Museum for the re-creation of the 8<sup>th</sup> century St Patrick's High Cross.

In 2014 we joined with the Friends of Down County Museum to have the three remaining fragments of the original cross professionally cleaned in preparation for digital scanning; this was completed by Queen's University in 2016 (shown left).

It is hoped that the re-created cross will be unveiled in the grounds of the Cathedral around St Patrick's Day.

*Entry: £5 per head, maximum of 6 per team. Refreshments and a raffle will also be included on the night.*

*To book your table, please contact Marian McGreevy on 028 43 751 315 or email [mazmcgreevy@gmail.com](mailto:mazmcgreevy@gmail.com)*

THE LECALÉ & DOWNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS REGISTERED WITH THE CHARITY COMMISSION OF NORTHERN IRELAND (REG. NO. 101936) AND WITH HER MAJESTY'S REVENUE & CUSTOMS (REG. NO. XR41259)

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## February Lecture

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm

Horace Reid will be speaking about the history of the Ballynahinch estate in Five Montalto Dynasties.

Venue: Down County Museum

## Members Annual Outing

Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Collon House & Gardens, County Louth

As part of the anniversary celebrations, the Society has organised an annual outing for 2018 that will take us a little further afield.

Built in 1740, Collon House is one of the 'Hidden Ireland' group of beautiful and fascinating historic houses.

Transport will be organised in the form of a hired bus from Downpatrick.

There are limited spaces for this visit so it is advised that members purchase their tickets as soon as possible. We regret that tickets are non-refundable unless taken up by people on a waiting list.

Details of ticket sales and an itinerary will be sent to members after April 2018.



## LDHS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018

Denvir's Coaching Inn, Downpatrick

Coming to the close of our anniversary year, the Society has arranged a special celebratory dinner for its members. This will be held in Denvir's Coaching Inn, which not only holds a lot of its own history, but was where The Downe Society first met 70 years ago.

The evening will include a three course meal, musical entertainment and we will also be joined by special guest, Dr Eamon Phoenix, who will address those attending.

Spaces will be limited so it is advised again that members purchase their tickets as soon as possible. We regret that tickets are non-refundable unless taken up by people on a waiting list.

Details of ticket sales etc will be sent to members later in 2018.



## Dr Maurice Hayes – an obituary

The Society deeply regrets the recent death at the age of 90 of our distinguished member, Maurice Hayes. He was one of Ireland's most prominent public figures, but we particularly remember him for his contribution to Downpatrick and Lecale. His writings reflected his great intellect, as well as his deep love and knowledge of this community where he lived throughout his life. He was a voice of reason and wisdom and we will miss his participation at our meetings. We extend our sympathy to his widow, Joan, and his family.

**We hope that you will be able to come along and support the Society at these events  
– we look forward to welcoming you!**