



The Federation for Ulster Local Studies Ltd

c/o 18 Ardmore Avenue, Downpatrick BT30 6JU
Tel: 028 4461 2986
Email: fuls@btconnect.com
Website: <http://www.fuls.org/>

Newsletter 3

July 2007

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on 30 June in the Cardinal O Fiaich Memorial Library. There were 30 delegates from nineteen Societies. The meeting elected a new Executive Committee, as follows

Officers

Chairman	- John Doher	Strabane History Society,	Tel: 028 7188 3006
Vice-Chair	- Bridgeen Rutherford	New Buildings Hist. Society	Tel: 028 7186 1696
Temp.Sect'y	- William Devlin	Tri'ty Coll. Dublin Ass. of NI	Tel: 028 4483 1783
Treasurer	- Pat Devlin	Lecale Historical Society	Tel: 028 4461 2986

Committee

Neil McGleenon	Markethill & District Historical Society	Tel: 028 37551148
Belinda Mehaffy	Co. Donegal Historical Society	Tel: 00353749141216
Arthur Spears	Co. Donegal Historical Society	Tel: 00353749141321
Doreen McBride	Banbridge Historical Society	Tel: 028 4062 3782
John Hulme	Carrickfergus & District Historical Society	Tel: 028 9336 1215
Malcolm Duffy	Aughnacloy & Truagh Historical Society	Tel: 028 8555 7982
Roddy Hegarty	North Belfast Historical Society	Tel: 028 3752 2981

The AGM passed the following resolutions -

Resolution 1

Concerned that the Federation's Articles of Association are no longer best suited for their purpose, this Meeting instructs the Executive Committee to review those aspects concerned with membership and governance and to prepare a report, with such suggested changes as may be considered appropriate, to an Extraordinary Meeting to be held before the end of this calendar year.

Resolution 2

In the light of the Federation's changed circumstances and restricted resources, this Meeting instructs the Executive Committee to consult with members and prepare a report, to be presented to an Extraordinary Meeting, held before the end of this calendar year, on the ways in how it can help in strengthening and developing Local Studies in Ulster in the years ahead.

The minutes of the AGM are available on the website - see overleaf.

FEDERATION BUSINESS

Federation for Ulster Local Societies

Following the AGM there was a general meeting of the Federation and the following Resolution was adopted -

"It is hereby resolved that the Federation for Ulster Local Societies be wound up and its assets transferred to the Federation for Ulster Local Studies

at a date to be determined by the Executive Committee."

The hand over will be concluded when the Federation for Ulster Local Studies' has secured full control of its financial affairs.

Federation membership and Insurance

On hand-over, both the membership and assets of the Federation for Ulster

Local Societies (the 'new' Federation) will be transferred to the Federation for Ulster Local Studies (the 'old' Federation). Those societies that joined the 'new' Federation, by paying the membership fee, will be deemed to have paid their fees to the 'old' Federation for the 2007-2008 year. This means that they will not be asked to renew membership in September.

Those societies that did not join the 'new' Federation will be asked for the membership fees as usual.

However, these societies have not contributed to the 'new' Federation's Public Liability Insurance scheme and are currently uninsured if they did not independently take out cover. On hand-over, the insurance scheme will be transferred to the name of the 'old' Federation. The position will then have returned to normal.

Federation Website

The Federation's website has been revived at its original address - www.fuls.org

Unfortunately, nothing of the original website survived so it had been built from scratch. The site has a full list of member societies with contact details together with a range of documents of interest to members.

Society Programmes

There will be an **Events** page on the website that will group society programme listings month by month.

Most Societies' programmes start in the autumn. If you want your programme to be listed on the website please send a copy to the address above as soon as it is available.

Links

Following a trawl of the web, our website contains a link to a substantial number of member societies own websites. If we have missed any, please email us with the details.

Bookshelf

The Federation now has details of a number of members' own publications on the website. If you would like your

publications listed on-line please send the details including price with p&p to the above address. If possible, include an image of the cover page - disc or email attachment, or if all else fails, a photograph. Remember to include a contact name and phone number, email or address where your publications may be obtained. Some publications have cover images already. Those that don't can send images to the email address above for inclusion.

Due North

A number of articles have been received. However, in the light of our different circumstances, we are not sure when the next edition will appear.

Federation Secretary - A Vacancy

There were no nominations for the position of Secretary at the Annual General Meeting so the position remains vacant.

The role of the Secretary is to arrange the meetings of the Federation, take the minutes and deal with correspondence. Additional functions such as compilation of the periodical Newsletters and distribution of material are shared with other Executive Committee members by arrangement.

It is an important and interesting role and the Executive Committee would welcome expressions of interest from members. For more information contact -

John Dooher Tel: 077 1363 6362
email: johndooh@btinternet.com

AGM- Resolution 2

The loss of official funding means that many of our planned activities that involved the use of full-time staff can no longer be undertaken. The Executive Committee wants to hear from members how in these circumstances they see us, as a group depending on our own resources, helping to strengthen and develop local studies. We want your ideas and where possible offers of practical help. Perhaps your Society has transferable skills; managing money and budgets, producing a journal, setting up a website, membership drives, publicity and public relations etc that could be of

use to others and that you are willing to share.

Societies may have skills that could be disseminated in the form of visiting speakers. These skills can come from special interests and from members' working life. A Geographical Skills Map might be a first step- in an area you could find Geographers, Educationalists, Fiscal experts, Folklore buffs, etc who could contribute to an neighbouring society's programme.

The Executive Committee has set up a small group to take the resolution forward. Suggestions and proposals should be sent to any of the following -

William Devlin: Tel 028 4483 1783
email: william.devlin@btinternet.com
Doreen McBride: Tel: 028 4062 3782
email:

doreen.mcbride@btinternet.com

John Hulme: Tel: 028 93361215
email: jhulme@btinternet.com

E V E N T S - August to October

Flight of the Earls - International Conference, Letterkenny Institute of Technology - 17 to 19 August 2007

This major international, interdisciplinary, bilingual Conference, assessing the political, diplomatic, cultural and religious history of the 'Flight of the Earls' will be addressed by many distinguished speakers. The keynote address is by Professor John McGurk (UU).

Weekend rates: €90, *Concessions* €60
Day Rates: €35, *Concessions* €25

Ticket Bookings:

An Grianan Theatre 00353 7491 20777
Book online: www.angrianan.com

Flight of the Earls - Bus tour - Armagh to Rathmullan

The tour includes evening meal. Further information and booking information from -

Roddy Hegarty: Tel 028 3752 2981

Flight of the Earls Festival 2007 Dungannon 6th to 9th September

Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Flight of the Earls and

the subsequent Plantation of Ulster by hosting a series of musical, theatrical, community, sporting and historical events.

The highlight will be the reopening of the ancient site of the O'Neill's Fort at the top of Castle Hill, which was closed to the public for many years. There will be a conference and Exhibition as well as music and pageant.

For information contact 028 8772 8600
or

visit www.dungannon.gov.uk

Flight of the Earls Walk

September 2007

The Earls of Ulster left Donegal from the port of Rathmullan in September 1607. It is believed that they arrived in Rathmullan on 14 September.

Walking Ireland is planning to begin a walk in Donegal Town on 14 September 2007 and walk to Rathmullan over three days. The walk will pass through Brocagh, Kilmacrennan/Ramelton and visit Doon Rock, the site of the inauguration of the Clan Chieftains. For further information email -

info@walkingireland.ie

Flight of the Earls - The end of an Era Down County Museum, Downpatrick Monday 15 October 7:30 p.m.

Lecale Historical Society is hosting a talk on the Earls' journey through Europe. All Welcome

Speaker Eamon O'Huallachan.

Contact: William Stranney Tel: 028 4461 5504

email: billy.stranney@btinternet.com

Losing the Peace - the Flight of the Earls and the impact on North West Ulster - 19 and 20 October 2007

Strabane History Society will be hosting a Conference and Seminar with the support of Strabane District Council. Confirmed speakers include Dr John McGurk and Dr William Roulston and there will also be entertainment provided on the evening of the 19th.

Further details available from -

John Dooher Tel: 077 1363 6362
email: johndooher@btinternet.com

**History of Gaelic Games in Co Armagh Exhibition - The Cardinal Fiaich Library
15 Moy Road Armagh (just behind St. Patrick's R.C. Cathedral)**

Running until September - Admission Free. Further information from -

Roddy Hegarty: Tel 028 3752 2981

War Years Oral History Project

This project, run by the Somme Heritage Centre, aims to record memories and experiences of those who served on the Home Front in WW2 eg a refugee or evacuee, conscientious objector or member of the Home Guard, factory or land worker. It complements an earlier project recording the memories of veterans from Northern Ireland. These testimonials will be an important record for future generations and of educational benefit to young people.

If you have such memories to share or know of someone who would be willing to take part you should contact -

Richard Parkinson, Somme Heritage Centre

Tel: 028 9182 3202

Or *Bob McKinley* Tel: 028 9146 2575

Society of Archivists Conference

Waterfront Hall, Belfast

28th to 30 August 2007

PRONI is helping to organise this Conference. The Society represents archivists, records managers and conservators across the UK and the RoI and the conference theme is "Differing Directions: Challenging Communities". Between 1.30pm and 5.00pm on 29th there will be an Information Marketplace bringing together commercial and non-commercial interests. Each participant will have one or more stalls (at a charge of £750 each!). PRONI is offering one of these stalls to FULS free of charge. It would involve manning the stall for 3½ hours in the afternoon and it would provide an opportunity to set out a display of its own publications and a range of those produced by individual local Societies.

The conference attendees, mainly from the UK and the RoI but including a number from abroad, could benefit from seeing something of the strong sense of

locality and community in Northern Ireland.

Societies are invited to provide copies of their publications for display. One copy of each recent publication, with details of cost and availability, together with name, address and phone number of the person of a contact in case of purchase request, to be sent to

Pat Devlin: Tel 028 4461 2986

John Doohar: Tel 028 71883006

Roddy Hegarty: Tel 028 37522981

Open Learning

The Opening Learning Programme of the School of Education at Queens are looking to extend to the rest of the Province, including into Monaghan, Cavan and Donegal, the reach of some short 5 to 10 week courses they have been running in Belfast. They design the courses according to local requirements and are keen to link into the Federation's network. Fees range from £20 - £40 per person. Courses gain credits towards a Certificate in Irish Studies. For more information contact -

Cathal McManus Tel: 028 9097 5914

email: c.p.mcmanus@qub.ac.uk

L A T E N E W S

Website

We have added a **Members' Forum** to the site where Societies can share views, publicise one-off events, seek information and raise any issue of interest or concern, and where we can debate our future direction and focus.

The Forum is open to people anywhere, to let us have their views on matters of general interest. The content will be moderated and, in the unlikely event of objectionable material being added, it can be quickly removed.