

Belfast
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St Patrick's Festival Belfast 2013

Friday 15 - Monday 18
March 2013

Carnival parade, concert, exhibitions, talks, tours,
films and family entertainment in Belfast City Hall
and other venues.



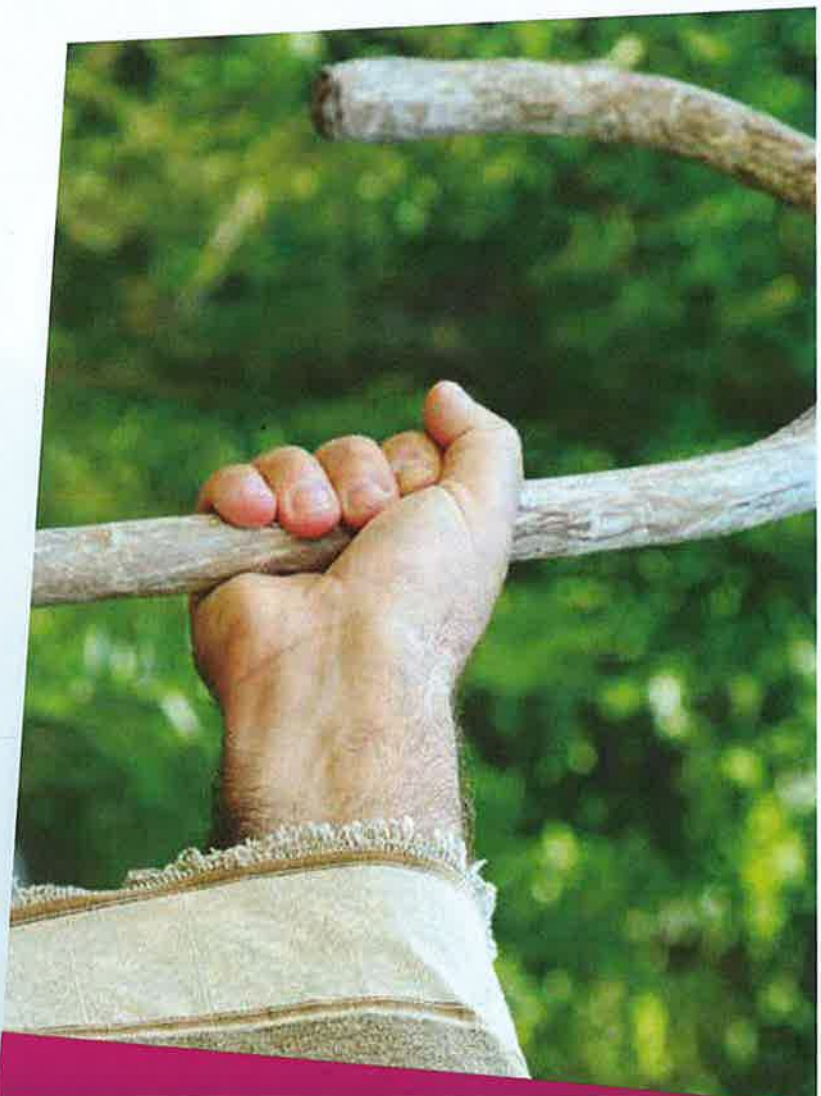
www.belfastcity.gov.uk/stpatricksdays

The story of St Patrick

St Patrick is the most commonly recognised patron saint of Ireland and he converted many to Christianity in Ireland. Much myth and legend surrounds the story of his life.

The main train of thought is that he was born in Roman Britain to a wealthy family and was kidnapped and sold to a chieftain in Ireland when he was 16. He then worked as a shepherd on Slemish Mountain in Ballymena spending most of his time alone praying.

According to the story, after six years of slavery, Patrick escaped and returned to his family and became a cleric. He later returned to Ireland as a Bishop and taught the Christian faith.



St Patrick's Day is a cultural and religious holiday, celebrated on 17 March, the anniversary of his death. We have celebrated St Patrick's Day over the last seven years with a carnival parade through the city centre

and an open air concert at Custom House Square. We strive to involve all members of the community and each year, over 600 community volunteers from across the city take part in this celebration.

City Hall events

Family fun

Suitable for all ages.

Free events
(No ticket required)



Fabulous face painting

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 4pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March:
11am – 4pm



St Patrick themed arts and crafts workshop

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 4pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March:
11am – 4pm



St Patrick's origami and papercraft workshop with Maeve Henry

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 4pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 11am – 4pm

2013

This year, we welcome the first ever St Patrick's Festival to Belfast from Friday 15 to Monday 18 March. The festival programme will take place in various venues including the Ulster Hall, the Linenhall Library, An Culturlann, St George's Market and Oh Yeah Music Centre.

Belfast City Hall will be the focal point of the festival weekend. The festival programme offers a variety of fascinating St Patrick related events and activities to suit all tastes from tours, themed menus, talks, drama and photography exhibitions to music workshops and live sporting games on the Big Screen. The St Patrick's Festival 2013 is a Gathering Ireland 2013 event.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this festival programme and hope you enjoy it!

For more information on family fun events contact Belfast Welcome Centre on 028 9024 6609.

City Hall events

Talks

Free events
(No ticket required)

Ego Patricius: Patrick and the Writing of Saints' Lives in Medieval Europe

Dr Stephen Kelly, School of English at Queen's University, Belfast

Friday 15 March: 2.15pm - 3pm

This talk will explore the *Confessio* of St Patrick in the context of the medieval literary tradition of saints' lives, comparing Patrick's autobiographical *Confessio* with some of the wilder excesses of hagiographical accounts of the saints, including St. Patrick himself.

Using church records to trace your family history

Valerie Adams, Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland

Friday 15 March: 1.15pm - 2.00pm

This talk will illustrate the wide range of church records available for family history and what they contain, their availability and some of the problems in using church records.



Migration in Belfast History

Dr Patrick Fitzgerald, Migration Studies, Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh

Friday 15 March: 3.30pm - 4.30pm

This talk will explore the impact of human migration upon the development of Belfast. Dr Fitzgerald will also draw upon emigrant letters to demonstrate how St Patrick's Day was celebrated by those who had moved overseas.

Remembering the Saints in Medieval Ireland and Scotland
 Cormac Bourke, Editor of the Uister Journal of Archaeology



Saturday 16 March: 11am – 12.30pm

Ireland and Scotland share a long list of medieval saints, as well as traditions and practices linked with their names. This illustrated lecture will look at some key figures and at the sites, metalwork and manuscripts through which the memory of the saints has been preserved.

St Patrick and the claim to primacy within the Irish church
 Roddy Hegarty, Cardinal Tomás Ó Flaith Memonial Library and Archive

Saturday 16 March: 1pm – 2.30pm

For anyone who has ever wondered how a relatively remote and small centre like Armagh gained the status of city and became the seat of not one, but two churches in Ireland - the answer lies in the story and traditions that surround Patrick, the apostle saint.



Uister Place-Names from the Time of St Patrick

Paul Tempan, Northern Ireland Place-Name Project

Saturday 16 March: 12.30pm-1pm

This talk will cover the origin and meaning of some of Ireland's oldest place-names, dating back to the early Christian era. Some of these names have strong associations with St Patrick himself, who lived in the 5th century AD. The talk will also look at what place-names tell us about life during this time in Ireland.

Dancing and ceils through the years

Máire Uí Bhrúadair

Monday 18 March: 12.30pm-1pm

Máire will reflect on how dancing has changed over the years and how dancing and ceils enabled people to meet socially, find friendship and romance.

St Patrick and Struel Wells
 Dr Finbar McCormick, School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast

Monday 18 March: 1pm – 2.15pm

Struell, near Downpatrick, was one of the most important places of pilgrimage in Ireland until the late 19th century. Early records tell us how St Patrick spent nights in the main well singing psalms in order to 'convert' the well from paganism to Christianity. The lecture traces the pagan origins of the wells and the rise and decline in the pilgrimage to the site.



How to start your family history
 Gillian Hunt, Uister History Foundation

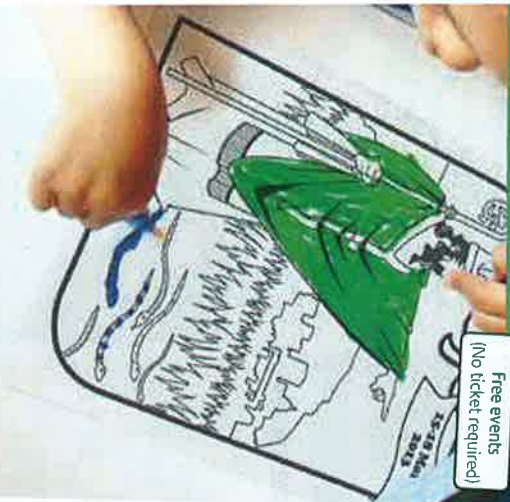
Monday 18 March: 11am-12.30pm

Research Officer: Gillian Hunt will outline the main records and websites available to carry out your family history, including census, church and civil records.

City Hall events

Exhibitions

Free events
(No ticket required)



St Patrick's colouring competition

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 11am – 5pm
Suitable for all ages.

Local primary schools within the Belfast City Council catchment area took part in a St Patrick's themed colouring competition. You can see the top 50 entries exhibited in Belfast City Hall throughout the St Patrick's Festival.

Snakes and St Patrick's – Exhibition and Talk

Friday 15 March: 2.30pm – 4pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 12.30pm – 2pm and 3pm – 4pm
Suitable for 4 years+

The absence of snakes in Ireland gave rise to the legend that they had all been banished by St Patrick. Truth or myth? Come along and learn more about these fascinating creatures and other reptiles that existed in Ireland around the time of St Patrick. View them up close or even touch and hold them if you're brave enough!

Place Names NI Exhibition

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 11am – 5pm



This exhibition introduces the subject of place-names, linking chosen place-names with the landscape, natural history, geography, archaeology, mythology, history, map-making, Irish and English languages, families, local customs and folklore.

Ulster Language, Traditions and Cultural Heritage

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 11am – 5pm

Suitable for all ages.
The ULTACH (Ulster Language, Traditions and Cultural Heritage) stand will provide information on their activities and the history of the Irish language, including the influence of the language on local place-names and surnames.



PRONI Exhibition

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 March: 11am – 5pm
Suitable for all ages.

The PRONI exhibition stall will offer assistance on how to research your family history.

St Patrick's Pageant Exhibition

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 11am – 5pm



Courtesy of Down County Museum, this exhibition showcases images from the 1932 Pageant celebrating the 1500th anniversary of the landing of St Patrick at Audleystown, Co Down.

BBC St Patrick's Journey website

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 11am–5pm

St Patrick's Journey is an educational website developed by BBC NI to teach us more about St Patrick, his home life, schooling, kidnapping and his legacy. Take a quiz to test your knowledge and find out what local children think St Patrick really looked like.

BBC staff will be on hand to guide you through this website and how they developed the content. The site is available in English, Irish and Ulster Scots.

Traditional crafts

Free events
(No ticket required)



Basket Weaving Louise McLean – Atlantic Craft NI

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 11am – 5pm
Belfast City Hall

Louise McLean has studied Traditional Heritage Craft Skills and has been practicing basketry and willow craft for the past 10 years. Her workshops and demonstrations provide you with the opportunity to learn more about basic weaving skills and get involved in creating something yourself.



Crochet and Clones Lace Workshop Máire Treenor

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 11am – 5pm
Belfast City Hall

Lace maker and teacher, Máire Treenor has a wealth of knowledge on Irish Crochet and Clones Lace. Whether you're an absolute beginner or would like to reweave or improve your existing lace making skills, this workshop is for you.

Bog Oak wood carving and Bodhran making demonstration Eamonn Maguire

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 11am – 5pm
Belfast City Hall

Belfast wood sculptor and Bodhran maker Eamonn Maguire will be demonstrating this ancient Irish craft and exhibiting some of his amazing hand-made collections.



Traditional Knitting workshop Elizabeth Savage, ElisOg Handkits

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 11am – 5pm

This traditional knitting workshop will be led by Elizabeth Savage from ElisOg Handkits, one of the largest Aran Handknit textile companies in Northern Ireland. The workshop will allow you to learn traditional techniques from expert hand-knitters and also a little bit about the history of the 'Arran sweater' itself. There will be an opportunity to view a collection of hand crafted garments and quilts.

Irish Linen workshop

Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 11am – 5pm
Belfast City Hall

even get to try it! There will also be an opportunity to see photographs and items from Lisburn's Irish Linen Museum's collection.

How does flax become fabric? Come see the difference between a hand loom shuttle and a power loom shuttle. Have a sniff of what retted flax smells like! You'll see traditional hand spinning and weaving in action and



City Hall events

Tales and drama



Storytelling with Liz Weir and Niall de Búrca

Friday 15 March: 1.30pm and 4pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March:
11.30am, 2pm, 4pm
45 min sessions,
suitable for all ages.

Free event
(No ticket
required)



'Patrick and the Bells' musical

Friday 15, Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 4pm daily
Admission is free: but on a first come
first served basis.

'Patrick and the Bells' is a story told with sentiment and song... a story of Patrick, his dreams about the bells and the people of Ireland. The musical is performed by the Fitz-Moles drama group from Mayobridge whose members are aged between three and 16.

For more information on tales and drama events contact
Belfast Welcome Centre on 028 9024 6609.

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Music and dance

Belfast City Hall

Learn the Tin Whistle workshop

Friday 15 March: 1.15pm - 2pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March:
11.30am - 12 noon
Max 12 spaces.

Free event -
booking required

Learn the Bodhran workshop

Friday 15 March: 2.45pm - 3.30pm
Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March:
2pm - 2.45pm
Max 15 spaces.

Free event -
booking required



Ciara O'Neill is an accomplished tin whistle and accordion player from Belfast. She has been performing and tutoring the tin whistle for over fourteen years and holds a BED degree and Diploma in Music. Each participant will receive a tin whistle to take home.

Stephen Downey is a skilled flautist and Bodhran player who has been tutoring with the Andersonstown Traditional and Contemporary Music School for over twelve years. Each participant will receive a bodhran stick to take home.

The Ulster Folk

Friday 15 March:
2pm-2.45pm



Free event
(No ticket
required)



Rousing Ulster-Scots renditions of traditional songs and tunes on fiddles, flutes, accordion and drums from Willie Drennan, along with John Trotter and Davy Angus.



Andersonstown Music School

Students and tutors from the Andersonstown Traditional and Contemporary Music School will perform throughout the festival using a variety of instruments including the harp, flute and accordion.



Open Drum Circle

Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 12noon – 12.40pm
Suitable for 4 years+

Free event - booking required!

Hosted by the Gathering Drum, this is a free-form, fully interactive drum circle using a variety of drums and percussion. Using various interventions and mini-activities, the group is brought on their very own, one of a kind journey into rhythm. This is ideal for absolute beginners and experienced drummers alike!



Bright Lights Dancing Group

Saturday 16 March: 12.40pm
Monday 18 March: 1.10pm

Free event (No ticket required)

A 20 minute display of Highland and Irish Dancing from Bright Lights Dancing

Group and the Murray School of Dance.

Bright Lights was established in 1988 and is an award winning dance group, providing weekly classes in Highland, Irish, Tap, Ballet and Musical Theatre. The Murray School of Irish Dance has been established for over 25 years in Ballynahinch. The school's aim is to foster, promote and encourage Irish dancing at all levels.

Set rhythm drum circle

Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 1.30pm – 2pm
Suitable for 4 years+

Free event - booking required!

Joe will guide the group through various simple rhythms and the group will then work to put the rhythms together making one larger piece. Hand drums and world percussion are the order of the day in this session, with the focus on having fun, working as a team and ultimately a sense of achievement when the final piece is put together.



Highland Pipes workshop

Saturday 16 and Monday 18 March: 2.45pm – 3.30pm

Free event - booking required!

Hosted by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, Northern Ireland branch (RSPBAN), this workshop explains the history, the workings of the instrument and the playing technique.



Uilleann and Scottish Smallpipes workshop

Saturday 16 March: 1pm – 1.30pm
Monday 18 March: 12.40pm – 1.10pm

Free event - booking required!

Hosted by the Pipes of Peace Project, this workshop offers the unique opportunity to learn the Uilleann Pipes, the national bagpipe of Ireland and the Scottish Smallpipes, very common in Scotland around the 16th century.

City Hall events

Film screenings

Free events
(No ticket required)

Outdoor Movie Marathon - Into the West - The Quiet Man

Saturday 16 March:

Into the West: 4pm – 5.30pm

The Quiet Man: 6pm – 8pm

The Big Screen, Belfast City Hall grounds

Seating will be provided. Please dress for the outdoor weather.

Enjoy the unique experience of watching these classic films on the Big Screen in City Hall grounds. Heating and seating will be available and food units selling a variety of food including Pie and Mash promise to make this a cosy/intimate evening.

Into the West is a film about two young boys, whose grandfather is an old story-telling traveller and regales the children with Irish folk-tales and legends. Grandpa Ward gives them a horse which they keep in their tower-block flat in Dublin. The horse is stolen from them, and the two young boys set out to find it and flee on it.

The Quiet Man – a film classic. Sean Thornton returns from America to reclaim his homestead and escape his past when Sean's eye is caught by Mary Kate Danaher, younger sister of ill tempered Red Will Danaher.



Dance Lexie Dance

Friday 15 March: 3pm – 3.20pm

Belfast City Hall

Award winning heart-warming short film about the strengthening of a father daughter relationship through a love of Irish dancing.



Give Up Your Aul Sins: The Story of St Patrick

Friday 15 March:

4.30pm – 5pm

Belfast City Hall

When a film crew arrives at an inner city Dublin National School to record the children, the result is a warm, funny and spontaneous animated documentary, featuring young children telling the story of John the Baptist, the birth of Jesus, Saint Patrick and others.



St Patrick: The Irish Legend

Saturday 16 March: 3pm – 4.45pm

Belfast City Hall

Starring Patrick Bergin as Patrick, the film follows the saint's journey from boyhood slavery through his conversion to Christianity and his experiences in later life when he returns to Ireland.

Cu Chulainn

Saturday 16 March: 4.45pm – 5pm

Belfast City Hall

An animated short film series. Granda is persuaded by his grandchildren to tell them one of his Irish stories. He relates to them the story of Setanta who enjoys a happy school-free childhood until he feels that he must fulfil his destiny.



The King's Wake

Saturday 16 March: 2.30pm – 3pm
Belfast City Hall

Short animation exploring the Irish and Ulster myths and legends.

The Secret Book of Kells

Monday 18 March:
2.15pm – 3.30pm
Belfast City Hall



Animated feature giving a fictionalized account of the creation of the Book of Kells. Follow 12-year-old Brendan as he battles Vikings and confronts an ancient serpent god on a mission to locate a legendary crystal and complete the mythical Book of Kells.

My Left Foot

Monday 18 March: 3.30pm – 5.15pm
Belfast City Hall

Enjoy this Oscar winning film that tells the story of Christy Brown, who despite being born with cerebral palsy, learned to paint and write with his only controllable limb - his left foot.

Sports



Danske Bank MacRory Cup Final

Monday 18 March: 1pm – 3pm

Free event
(No ticket required)

The MacRory Cup is the most covered prize in Ulster. Schools and attracts an attendance in the region of 5,000 as well as a substantial TV audience.

Danske Bank Ulster Schools Cup Final

Monday 18 March: 3pm – 5pm

Free event
(No ticket required)

Always one of the highlights of the Ulster sporting calendar, this year's winning captain will go down in Ulster Rugby history as the last schoolboy to climb the steps of the old stand to receive the famous cup.

For more information contact
Belfast Welcome Centre on 028 9024 6609.

Health and home

Belfast City Hall grounds

St Patrick's Renew, Refuel and Recycle

Saturday 16 March:
12 noon – 4pm

Free event
(No ticket required)

Renew: Still keen to make 2013 fitter and healthier? Then this is a must for you! Various health agencies will be available to give you a health MOT and you can learn a bit more about healthy lifestyles and where to go in the city for guidance on getting healthier and fitter.

Refuel: Fancy learning how to cook the perfect Irish Stew or how to use old potatoes to make boxty and colcannon? Come down to the cookery demos and food tasters to learn tasty, healthy recipes that will help you save pounds on your waist and pounds in your purse.

Recycle: Fancy making a giant St Patrick montage out of waste material or building a giant shamrock? Come on down to City Hall grounds and help the Waste Management crew renew and recycle material into St Patrick-themed displays.





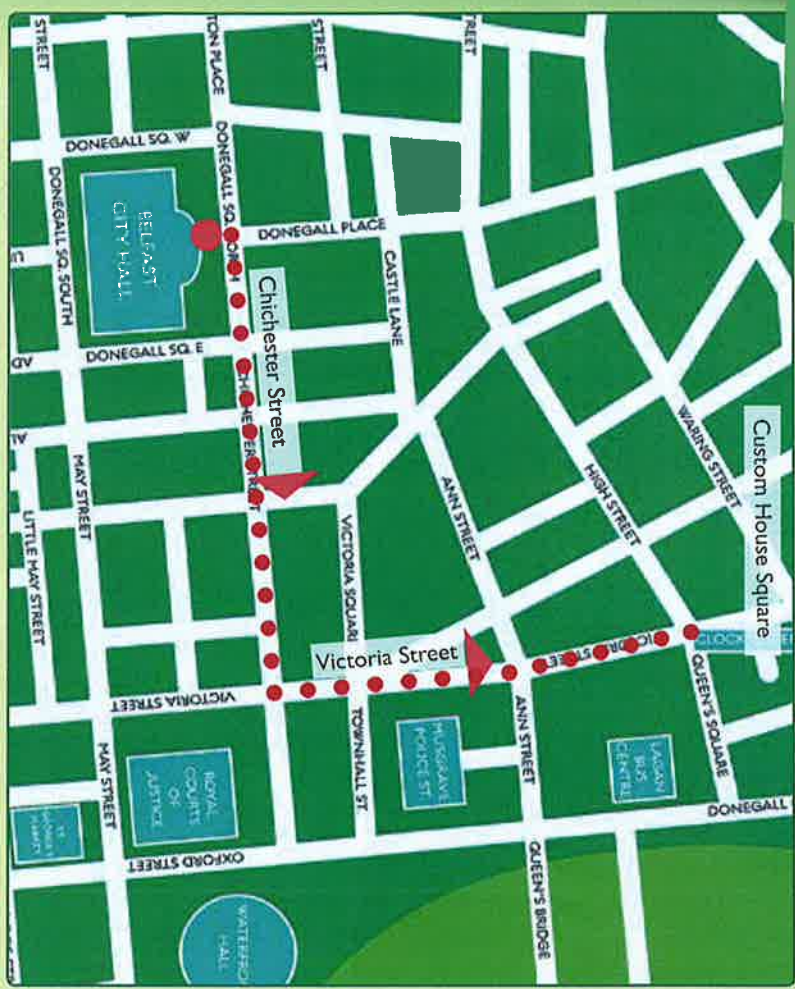
Annual St Patrick's Carnival Parade

Sunday 17 March: 12 noon
Belfast City Hall to Custom House Square

On Sunday 17 March Belfast will come alive with a colourful carnival atmosphere for all the family to enjoy!

Sunday's celebrations will start with a spectacular high energy carnival parade leaving from Belfast City Hall at 12 noon. Come along to see a rainbow of colours with eye-catching floats, breathtaking feats from street performers and support from your community as people of all ages and from all parts of the city celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Belfast.

Parade route



Citybeat and Stephen Clements

96.7/102.5fm

Citybeat's Breakfast presenters Stephen Clements and Megan Mackay will comper our St. Patrick's concert – come along to hear great tunes and your chance to win Citybeat prizes! Look out for Citybeat as part of our parade too.

Sober St Patrick's Day

Belfast City Council is delighted to be working with the Sober Saint Patrick's Day organisation for its 2013 St. Patrick's Day Festival. The great work of Sober Saint Patrick's Day highlights a fantastic way for Belfast's citizens and visitors to enjoy 17 March.



St Patrick's Concert and Kiddie Zone

Concert

Sunday 17 March: 1pm – 3pm
(gates open at 12 noon)
Custom House Square and The Big Fish

Celebrate St Patrick's Day with a superb free concert at Custom House Square. A fantastic line-up with pop acts, drummers, traditional Irish and Ulster Scots dancing and music all compered by Citybeat. Face painting and themed characters will help get everyone in the party mood. Admission is on a first come first served basis. Belfast City Council standard terms and conditions of entry will apply.

Kiddie Zone

The Big Fish, Donegall Quay,
1pm – 3pm (gates open at 12 noon)

A special kiddie and family zone will allow toddlers and younger children to enjoy the buzz and music of the concert away from the crowds, plus enjoy lots of free family entertainment. There'll be face painters, glitter tattoos, arts and crafts and kiddie rides. This area is beside the Big Fish.

Amelia Lily

X Factor finalist Amelia Lily's debut single, 'You Bring Me Joy' was a great success, as was her follow up single 'Shut Up and Give Me Whatever You Got'. This promises to be a high energy performance.



David Julien

Following a spectacular appearance on The Voice UK, David Julien has had a busy few months; both recording and playing live around the country. David is now writing and producing his debut album with a fresh new take on the pop scene and unexpected new sound from this up and coming young performer.



No ticket required, contact Belfast Welcome Centre on 028 9024 6609 for more information



Blackthorn

Blackthorn is one the north of Ireland's most successful folk groups, enthraling audiences for more than 30 years, adapting to the continuing changes in Irish traditional music and adding their own special ingredient.

As musical ambassadors for Ireland, the band has travelled to England, Scotland, USA, Canada, Germany, Belgium and Bahrain. The group had two entries in the Irish charts 'A Children's Writer' and 'Flower of Scotland' and the current line up continues to write and record.



Torann Drummers

Torann have been beating their drums up, down and all around Ireland, the UK and small parts of Poland for many years. During these shows, they have performed to audiences of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities, but one thing has united all those people – they have all danced, moved, wiggled and grooved to the rhythms and beats coming from the stage.

Torann have a reputation for making drums sound like they really shouldn't, with their sound being described as all sorts of genres – rock, techno, contemporary Irish, and more.



Rightly On

Rightly On is the latest Ulster Scots Folk group to take the scene by storm. The group consists mainly of family members and with the help of World Champion piper Neil Badger and All Ireland Fiddle Champion Niall McLean, together they combine their experience of traditional and pipe band music with a little bit of rock. Sure to entertain.

Tir na n-Og Irish Dancing Group

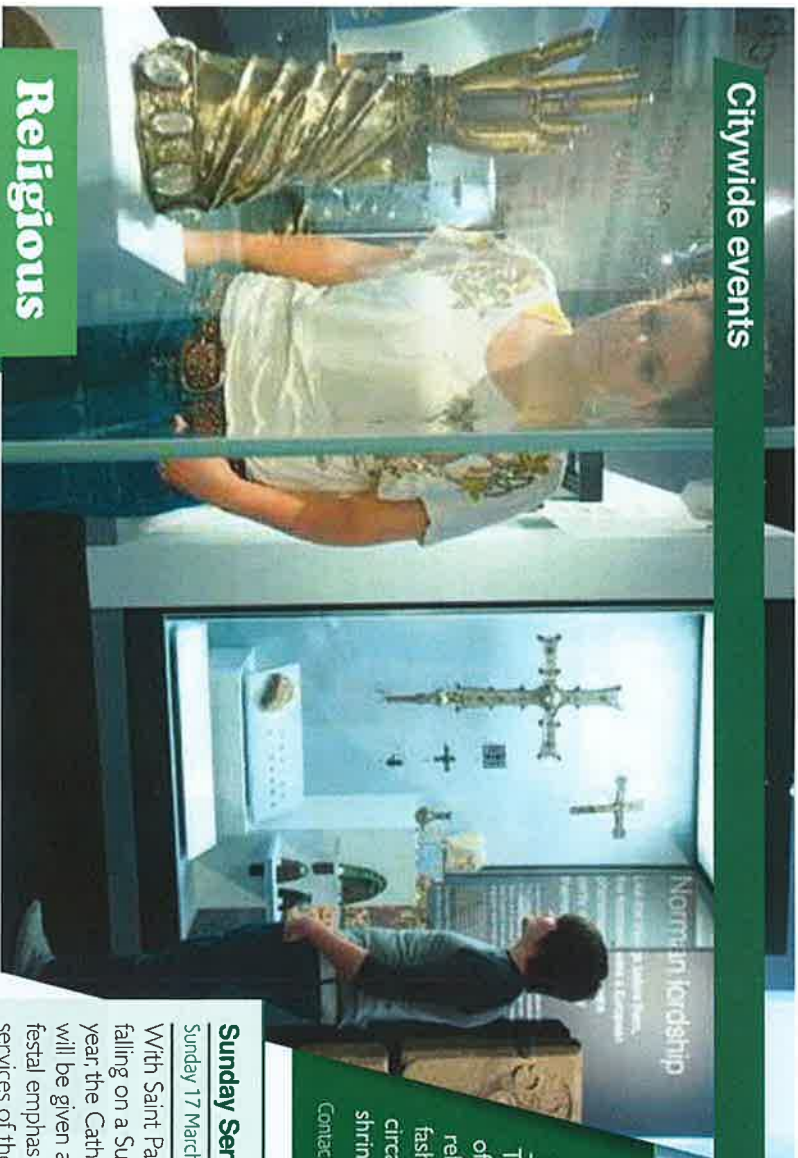
The Tir na n-Og Irish Dancing Group was established in 1998 bringing together children and young people from all sections of the community in north Belfast and beyond. They work hard to perfect the art of Festival Dancing and compete regularly in Irish Dancing Festivals all over Northern Ireland and beyond.

Ballysillan Highland Dancers

Established in September 2000, this group offers local people of all ages the opportunity to learn highland dancing.

Please note no alcohol is sold or permitted on site and all children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult.
For Terms and Conditions see www.belfastcity.gov.uk/spatricksday

Citywide events



Religious

Guided tour of Clonard Church and Monastery

Clonard Gardens
Saturday 16 March: 2pm and other
tour times by appointment
Tel: 028 9044 5950

Mass times
Saturday: 7am, 9.30am, 12noon, vigil
candlelight mass 7.30pm
Sunday: 7am, 9.30 am, 11am, 12.30pm
Weekdays: 7am, 9.30am, 6.15pm.
Thursdays: 7am Novena masses at
9.30am, 4pm, 6.15pm, 9pm.



The Parish of Saint Patrick

Saint Patrick's Presbytery
199 Donegall Street
028 9032 4597

The church holds a large collection of relics of saints, most notably two relics of St Patrick: the silver shrine fashioned for the arm of St Patrick, circa 1300AD and the silver jaw bone shrine, circa 1645.

Contact the Presbytery for more information.

Sunday Service at St Anne's Cathedral

Sunday 17 March: 11am and 3.30pm

With Saint Patrick's Day falling on a Sunday this year, the Cathedral services will be given a special festival emphasis. The main services of the day are at 11am (Sung Eucharist) and 3:30pm (Choral Evensong).

All are welcome.

Contact St Anne's Cathedral on 028 9032 8332



For service times in the Diocese of Down and Connor please visit www.downandconnor.org/parishes-ministries/city-parishes

Family fun



St Patrick's Day intercultural family celebrations

Sunday 17 March: 10.30am – 12 noon
Botanic Gardens
Free – all welcome

Family themed leprechaun
fun walk and treasure hunt in
Botanic Gardens leaving from
Shaftesbury Community and
Recreation Centre at 10.30am.
Tel: 028 9031 2377 or email
nbrennan@lorag.org

Shaftesbury Community & Recreation Centre



Family fun at Shaftesbury Community and Recreation Centre

Sunday 17 March: 1pm – 3pm
Free – all welcome
Tel: 028 9031 2377 or email
nbrennan@lorag.org



St. Patrick's Day rosette family workshop

Saturday 16 March: 2pm – 3pm
Culturlann McAdam Ó Flaith
Free admission.
Tel: 028 9096 4180, email at
oifigfalie@culturlann.ie or visit
www.culturlann.ie

Fun at the Mill

Conway Mill
5-10 Conway Street, Belfast
Date to be confirmed.



Please contact Conway Mill on 028
9024 9646 for more information.

Storytelling for children with 'the Faddies'

Saturday 16 March: 12.30pm – 1pm
Culturlann McAdam Ó Flaith
Free admission
Tel: 028 9096 4180

Local community events

There will be a number of
events happening within local
communities to celebrate St.
Patrick's Day. For details on local
projects funded by our St Patrick's
Day small grants scheme, please
contact the Good Relations
Unit on 028 9027 0663 or email:
goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk

Citywide events

Talks and poetry

Seachtain na Gaelige – lectures and courses

Monday 4 – Sunday 17 March
Various venues in Upper
Springfield Area
Tel: 028 9023 4442



Open Ear Literary Journal presents Irish Literature at Lunchtime

Friday 15 March: 1pm – 2pm
The Ulster Hall, Belfast
Admission Free.
Tel: 028 9033 4455



Poetry writing workshop facilitated by local poet Andrew Eaton

Friday 15 March: 2.30pm – 4.30pm
The Ulster Hall, Belfast
Book by emailing carsonjan@belfastcity.gov.uk



The Lifeboat: Irish poetry readings

Friday 15 March: 7.30pm
The Galley Café, the Barge Belfast
Free event
Tel: 028 9023 5973



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Exhibitions

St Patrick's celebrations throughout the years – photographic exhibition

Monday to Saturday throughout
March: Daily 9am – 5pm
Upper balcony gallery, the Ulster Hall
Free admission
www.ulsterhall.co.uk



Bog Meadow and Surrounding Hills

5 February – 30 March:
Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 5.30pm;
Saturday 9.30am – 4pm
Linen Hall Library, Belfast
Free admission
Tel: 028 9032 1707 or visit
www.linenhall.com



The Story of Belfast

5 February – 30 March:
Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 5.30pm;
Saturday 9.30am – 4pm
Linen Hall Library, Belfast
Tel: 028 9032 1707 or visit
www.linenhall.com



Saints and Scholars exhibition

Friday 15, Saturday 16 and Monday 18
March: 10am – 5pm
Ulster Museum, Belfast
Free – no ticket required

This exhibition explores Irish history from AD 400 to AD 1600 and begins by marking the arrival of Christianity in Ireland which was accompanied by the introduction of writing. This exhibition is on display in Area 12: The History Zone.
For more information visit
www.rmmi.com/um

Tours

Story of Belfast walking tour

Friday 15 March:
2pm - lasts 2 hours
Departing from Linen Hall Library
Tickets: £5
Tel: 028 9032 1707 or visit
www.linenhall.com



The West Awakes walking tour

Friday 15 and Saturday 16
March: 11am
Departs from Divis Tower, Falls Road.
Tickets: £10 – booking essential
Tel: Kabosh Theatre Company on 028 9024 3343 or visit
www.kabosh.net



St Patrick's Tour of County Down

Monday 11 – Monday 18 March
Departs Jury's Hotel at 9.30am, returning 5pm
Price - £29 booking essential.

Enjoy a fully guided luxury coach tour to St Patrick's grave in Downpatrick, Newcastle and the majestic Mourne Mountains.
Tel: Belfast City Sightseeing tours on 028 9032 1321



LITERARY BELFAST

Belfast Literary walking tour

Monday 18 March: 1pm
Departs from the Crown Bar, 46 Great Victoria Street
Tickets £6 - advanced booking is essential.

Tickets available from Belfast Welcome Centre, 47 Donegall Place, 028 9024 6609.
For more information visit www.literarybelfast.org



Belfast City Sightseeing Tours

Daily: 10am and 4pm.

Tour departs from Castle Place
Price: £12.50 per adult/ £10.50 concessions/ £6 per child.
Under 6 years go free
Bookings: 028 9032 1321 or online at www.belfastcitysightseeing.com



Late Night Art Walking Tour (early bird special)

Saturday 16 March: 10.30am
Tickets: £6 - advanced booking essential.

Tickets are available from Belfast Welcome Centre, 47 Donegall Place, 028 9024 6609.
For more information visit www.belfastgalleries.com



St Patrick's guided boat tours of the harbour

Saturday 16 – Monday 18 March: 12.30pm and 2pm (tour lasts 1 hour)

Departs from Donegall Quay (at the Big Fish)
Prices: £5 per adult; £4 concessions; £15 family ticket (2 adults and 2 children).
Tickets can be purchased from the Lagan Boat Company ticket office, Beside Fed and Watered Café, Donegall Quay, Belfast.



Belfast Music bus tour (authored by Oh Yeah Music Centre)

Saturday 16 March: 2pm

Departs from the Ulster Hall
Tickets are £8/ £6 concession (student/ senior) - advanced booking essential.
Tickets available from Belfast Welcome Centre, 47 Donegall Place, 028 9024 6609.
For more information visit www.belfastmusic.org



Tours of the Ulster Hall

Monday 18 March: 2pm, 3pm and 4pm

Free – no ticket required
www.ulsterhall.co.uk



Tours of Crumlin Road Gaol

53-55 Crumlin Road

Daily: 10am and 4.30pm
Tel: 028 9074 1500 or email info@crumlinroadgaol.com

Film screenings



Darby O'Gill and the Little People

Saturday 16 March: 9.30am – 12.30pm
The Ulster Hall, Belfast
£3 per person

Family day out with a screening of Darby O'Gill and the Little People and a host of St Patrick's themed games, crafts and activities. Suitable for primary school aged children and their carers.



The Commitments

Sunday 17 March: 10.30am – 12.30pm
The Ulster Hall, Belfast
£6 per person

Breakfast Club screening of the Irish classic, the Commitments with a Belfast Bap and mug of tea as part of the sell-out series of Sunday morning breakfasts and movies at The Ulster Hall.

Booking is essential at www.ulsterhall.co.uk or 028 9033 4455.

Music and dance

Féile an Earraigh

Monday 11 – Sunday 17 March
Bank Square marquee, Gaeltacht Quarter and city centre

An eclectic mix of traditional music, drama, exhibitions and discussions.
www.feilbelelfast.com

Traditional Music Remembered with the McPeake Family

Friday 15 March: 10.30am – 12 noon
The Ulster Hall
Free, refreshments provided.
www.ulsterhall.co.uk or 028 9033 4455.

Set Dance Ceili in aid of the Michaela Foundation

Friday 15 March: 9pm
Holy Family Parish Centre,
120 Cavehill Road
Admission £10, supper served.
Tel: 07885 739258, or email
ge1112@rtworld.com



**Traditional music workshop
– guitar and tin whistle**

Friday 15 March: 2.30pm – 3.30pm
WHISTLE and 3.30pm – 4.30pm GUITAR
The Ulster Hall, Belfast
Free. Booking essential by emailing
carsonjan@bell-elasticity.gov.uk and
specifying which workshop you would
like to join.



Glamrocks and Shamrocks

Friday 15 March: 9pm
Belfast Empire Music Hall
Admission £6
Tel: 028 9024 9276 or visit
www.thebelfastempire.com

**Féile an Earraigh present:
The First Light supported
by Réalta**



Friday 15 March: 8pm
Festival Marquee, Bank Square, Belfast
Tickets: £10 each – booking required
Traditional songs, duelling pipes,
fiddles, whistles, guitar bouzouki
and bodhrani!
www.fellebelfast.com

Rare Oul Stuff

Friday 15 March: 10.30pm
The Eg Bar
Free admission
Tel: 028 9038 1994 or
visit www.egbar.co.uk



Live folk and traditional music

Friday 15 – Monday 18 March
Fibber Magee's and Robinsons Saloon
Free admission
Tel: 028 9024 7447 or visit
www.robinsonsbars.co.uk



**The Ulster Folk at St
George's Market**

Saturday 16 March: 10.30am – 2.20pm
Admission free, no ticket required.
Tel: 028 9043 5704

Citywide events

Music and dance

Pot of Gold Party

Saturday 16 March: 10pm
 Roxy Nightclub at Robinsons
 Admission £5
 Tel: 028 9024 7447 or visit
www.robinsnsbar.co.uk

Swanky St Paddy's

Saturday 16 March: 10pm
 The Parlour
 Admission £5
 Tel: 028 9068 6970 or visit
www.parlourbar.co.uk

Traditional Irish Music Session in Caité Feirste

Saturday 16 March:
 12:30pm – 2:30pm
 Caité Feirste, Culturlann
 McAdam Ó Fiaich
 Tel: 028 9096 4180, email
oilgfaite@culturlann.ie or visit
www.culturlann.ie



St Patrick's musical workshops at Oh Yeah Music Centre

Saturday 16 March: 3pm – 5pm
 Oh Yeah Music Centre, 15-21
 Gordon Street, Belfast
 Free, booking essential.

Oh Yeah will host a song-writing workshop in association with the David McWilliams Foundation and a drumming workshop.
 For more information visit www.ohyeahbelfast.com or ring 028 9031 0845.



St Patrick's @ Oh Yeah, featuring Kila

Saturday 16 March: 8pm
 Oh Yeah Music Centre, 15-21
 Gordon Street, Belfast
 Tickets - £7
 For further information visit
www.ohyeahbelfast.com
 028 9031 0845

Playing together for nearly 20 years, Kila are firmly established as one of Ireland's most innovative and exciting

bands. With their distinctive style of traditional and world music they have won over audiences around the globe. Support on the evening will come from Belfast band, Magware, whose distinctive fusion of funk, reggae and hypnotic dance will inevitably add to what will be a great night at the Oh Yeah!



Felie an Earraigh present **Guidewires** (featuring Special Guests Liam Ó Maonlaí and Tríona Ní Dhomhnaill) supported by Alan Burke

Saturday 16 March: 8pm
 Festival Marquee, Bank Square, Belfast
 Tickets: £10
 Tickets available from www.feliebelfast.com



The Villagers

Saturday 16 March: 8:30pm
 The Belfast Empire Music Hall
 Tickets £16
 Tel: 028 9024 9276 or visit
www.thebelfastempire.com

The String Band at St George's Sunday market

Sunday 17 March:
 11.30am – 3.30pm
 Tel: 028 9043 5704 or email
markets@belfastcity.gov.uk

St Patrick's tea dance

Sunday 17 March: 2pm – 4:30pm
 Free admission – ticket required
 The Ulster Hall
 Tel: 028 9033 4455 or visit
www.ulsterhall.co.uk

St Patrick's Ceili

Sunday 17 March: 8pm – 11pm
The Ulster Hall
Tickets: £8 per person

Learn your steps during a short dance workshop for beginners followed by a Céili with the Cathal McAnulty Céili band. Other acts include

traditional musicians and choir from the Urban Arts Centre along with world champion Irish dancers, formerly of Riverdance, who all perform in a finale with the McPeake family.

Booking is essential at www.ulsterhall.co.uk or 028 9033 4455.



McPeake Family in Concert

Sunday 17 March: 8pm
Lyric Theatre
Tickets: £12.50 and £15 – booking required.
Box office: 028 9038 1081 or visit www.lyrictheatre.co.uk

Folk Fusion

Sunday 17 March: 3pm – 6pm and 7.30pm
Belfast Empire Music Hall
Tel: 028 9024 9276 or visit: www.thebelfastempire.com

Darragh Folk

Sunday 17 March: 2.30pm
The Eg Bar
Free admission
Tel: 028 9038 1994 or visit www.egbar.co.uk

Ceili House

Sunday 17 March: 4pm
The Parlour
Free Admission
Tel: 028 9068 6970 or visit www.theparlourbar.co.uk

Féile an Earraigh

present:
A Tribute to Luke Kelly
Sunday 17 March: 8pm
Festival Marquee, Bank Square
Ticket: £15
Tickets available from www.feliebelelfast.com



BBC NI and Belfast City Council present Clannad in concert with the Ulster Orchestra

Sunday 17 March: 8pm
Free admission – ticket required.
Belfast Waterfront

Free tickets to this event will be allocated by random draw through the BBC Shows, Tours and Events website www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours. The concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio Ulster.

Céili Mór

Sunday 17 March: 8pm
CultúrIann McAdam Ó Flach
Admission: £6 per person
Tel: 028 9096 4180, email offgfailee@culturIann.ie or www.culturIann.ie

St Paddy's Big Quiz

Sunday 17 March: 10pm
Belfast Empire Music Hall
Admission: £1
Tel: 028 9024 9276 or visit www.thebelfastempire.com

Beth Nielsen Chapman concert

Monday 18 March: 8pm
Lyric Theatre
Tickets: £18.50 – booking required.
Box office: 028 9038 1081 or visit www.lyrictheatre.co.uk



Ken Haddock

Sunday 17 March: 10pm
Belfast Empire Music Hall
Free admission
Tel: 028 9024 9276 or visit www.thebelfastempire.com



Citywide events



Food

The Galley café, Belfast Barge, Lanyon Quay

Friday 15, Saturday 16 and
Monday 18 March

Food served from 12 noon, live
music at 2pm.

Tel: 028 9023 5973.

James Street South Restaurant and Bar and Grill

Friday 15 to Monday 18 March

St Patrick's Festival menu
available for lunch and dinner.

Tel: 028 9043 4310.

Cáife Feiste, Culturlann McAdam Ó Flaich

Falls Road

Saturday 16 and Sunday 17
March

Serving a special St Patrick's
weekend menu.

Tel: 028 9096 4180 or visit:
www.culturlann.ie

Belfast Castle Tavern Bar

Friday 15 and Saturday 16

March: 12pm – 9pm

Sunday 17 and Monday 18

March: 12pm – 5pm

Belfast Castle will be serving
a St Patrick's Weekend menu

in the Tavern Bar. Menu to
include: Homemade Irish
Stew, Potato and Leek Soup,

Bacon Loin with Champ and

Cabbage and Pork and Leek

Sausages with Colcannon

Mash. Come and enjoy the

relaxed atmosphere on this

special weekend.

Tel: 028 9077 6925 or visit

www.belfastcity.gov.uk/

belfastcastle

Robinsons Bisto

Sunday 17 March: from 12 noon

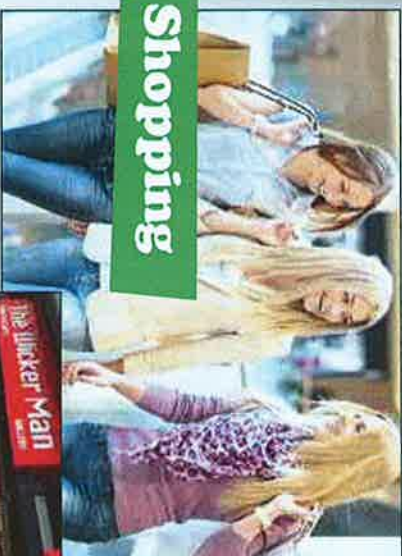
Free admission

Tasty traditional dining and
family entertainment.

Tel: 028 9024 7447 or visit

www.robinsonsbisto.co.uk

Shopping



Belfast City Shopping

Belfast's city centre is
open for business over

the St Patrick's weekend.

Visit Castle Court, Victoria

Square and city centre

retailers for a top class

shopping experience.

Opening hours for the festival

period are:

Friday 15 March: 9am – 6pm

(Victoria Square: 9.30am – 9pm)

Saturday 16 March: 9am – 6pm

Sunday 17 March: 1pm – 6pm

Monday 18 March: 9am – 6pm
(Victoria Square: 9.30am – 6pm)

Special St Patrick's offer at the Wicker Man

44-46 High Street

Get a free gift at the Wicker

Man when you spend over

£50 in store. Also receive

a 10% discount when you

mention 'St Patrick's Festival'.

For more information contact the

Wicker Man on 028 9024 3550,

email admin@thewickerman.co.uk

or visit www.thewickerman.co.uk

Province wide events

Province-wide events

St Patrick's celebrations, Downpatrick

Monday 11 – Monday 18 March

For further event listings check out www.downdc.gov.uk or contact festival office on 028 4461 2233.



St Patrick's Celebrations, Londonderry/ Derry

Sunday 17 March 2013: 2pm

Celebrate St Patrick's Day in the City of Culture as the themed "All Kinds of Everything". Parade will bring audiences on a magic adventure across land, sea and sky. For more info visit www.derry.gov.uk



St Patrick's Race Day at Down Royal

Saturday 16 March

Down Royal Racecourse, Lisburn
For full details please visit www.downroyal.com



St Patrick's Day Celebrations

Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, Cultra

Sunday 17 March: 10am to 5pm

Booking is not necessary, event day pricing applicable.

Tel: 028 9042 8428 or visit www.nmni.com/ufm



Emigrants' Farewell

Sunday 17 March:

10am - 5pm
Ulster American Folk Park, Castlestown, Ormagh
Visit www.nmni.com/uafp for more information.



Belfast

entertained

Saturday
30 - 2
March April
Tuesday



Belfast 400

City Hall, Belfast
11am - 5pm each day, admission free
Enjoy our Easter extravaganza to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Charter and our city's past, present and future. This festival has a packed programme of free activities including exhibitions, talks, guided tours, dance, drama, films, arts and crafts, face painting and more.



The Lord Mayor's Party

Saturday
18
May

Belfast City Hall grounds
1pm-7pm
Free event - ticket required
Join Belfast's Lord Mayor, Alderman Gavin Robinson for an afternoon party in the grounds of Belfast City Hall to celebrate his year in office. Enjoy live musical performances and entertainment from 1pm-7pm.



Belfast Titanic Maritime Festival

Saturday
25 - 27
Monday
May

Queen's Quay
A fun filled weekend for all the family with ships and stalls, music and dancing, pirates and performers!

For information visit our website or contact
Belfast Welcome Centre on 028 9024 6609

www.belfastcity.gov.uk/events





Belfast

**With fantastic offers,
great days out cost
less in Belfast!**

There's lots to do across the city for all the family, and you can afford to treat them with discounted meal deals and restaurant promotions.

Plus, check online for KIDS EAT FREE deals!

For details, events and attractions
backinbelfast.com

For the very latest offers
[#backinbelfast](https://twitter.com/backinbelfast)

Family fun? We're

Backin' Belfast

backinbelfast.com

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This information is correct at time of going to print. Belfast City Council cannot be held responsible or liable for any amendments, changes or cancellations to this programme.

Please visit the website for up to date programme information. www.belfastcity.gov.uk/stpatricksdays