Lecture Series Gets a Handle on History

31 Jan 2014

The series, titled, “The Course of Irish History from Early Times through Plantation to Partition” is delivered by Banbridge District Council’s Good Relations Programme which is part-funded through OFMDFM and has been organised by Good Relations Officer Dolores Donnelly with the help of renowned Political Historian and Broadcaster, Dr. Eamon Phoenix. All lectures will be chaired by Dr. Eamon Phoenix with accompanying guest historians, and have been designed to give members of the public an opportunity to find out more about our historical past.

The lectures will be held on Wednesday evenings from 8pm – 10pm at Iveagh Movie Studios, Banbridge (unless otherwise stated). The first lecture takes place on 12 February with Ruairi O Baoill, leading archaeologist and authorwho will discuss ‘The Archaeology of Ulster: from the Black Pig’s Dyke to “the Plantation’.

Continuing on 19 February Dr Jonathan Bardon, historian and author of ‘A History of Ulster’ will give insight into ‘The Plantation of Ulster: from the Nine Years War to the Boyne 1600-1691’.

This will be followed on 26 February with a lecture delivered by Dr William Roulston, Research Director at the Ulster Historical Foundation, entitled ‘Ireland in the 18th Century: from the Penal Laws to the 1798 Rebellion’. Local historian Mr Horace Reid will also speak on ‘Montalto and the Battle of Ballynahinch’.

On 12 March, in Banbridge Academy Lecture Theatre, Dr Olwen Purdue, social historian and author from Queens University Belfast will discuss ‘Nineteenth Century Ireland: from the Union through the Great Famine to Home Rule: 1800-1870’. Plunkett Campbell, a local historian will talk about ‘Banbridge and District in the Nineteenth Century’.

For the next lecture on 19 March, Dr Eamon Phoenix, Stranmillis University College and Queens University Belfast will discuss ‘The Road to Revolution and Partition 1885-1925’ followed by Prof. Laurence Kirkpatrick, Union Theological College and Queens University Belfast who will deliver a talk on ‘The Protestant Churches and the Third Home Rule Crisis, 1912-14’.

The series will finish with a History Roadshow on 26 March which will be held in Banbridge Academy Lecture Theatre. Chaired by Dr Éamon Phoenix, members of the public are invited to bring along their old documents, letters, postcards, artefacts and historical memorabilia for

assessment. Everyone has something in the attic and you never know what treasures you may unearth!

All lectures are free of charge and offered on a first come first served basis. To reserve a place please contact Marion Mitchell, Leisure Services on T: 028 4066 0605 or E: marion.mitchell@banbridge.gov.uk