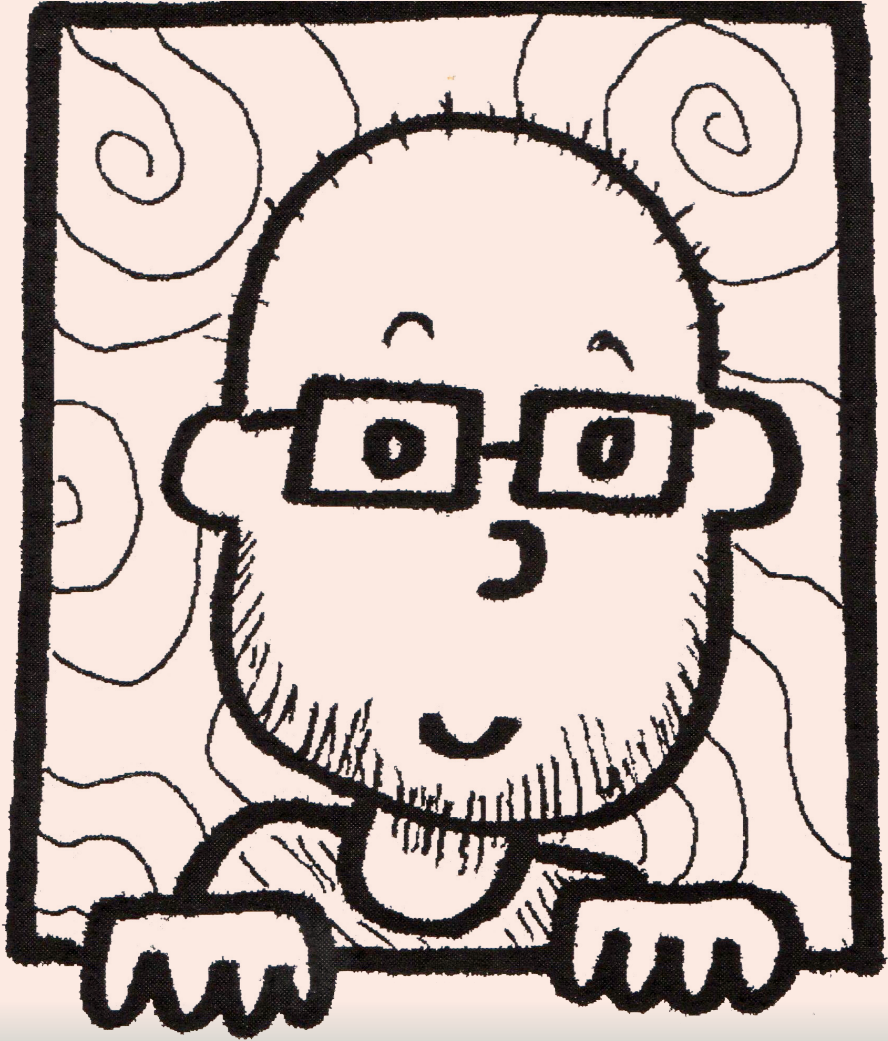




www.downartscentre.com



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

**SEPTEMBER /
DECEMBER 23**



Located in the heart of Downpatrick, Down Arts Centre produces a programme of arts events throughout the year; including exhibitions, live theatre, music entertainment and comedy performances, as well as a wide range of workshops and classes.

BOOKING INFORMATION

The Down Arts team are pleased to let our customers know we now have online booking from our website

www.downartscentre.com

You can still call us on 0330 137 4014 or drop in to book tickets.

Open to the public Monday to Friday
10am – 4.30pm

Down Arts Centre
2 – 6 Irish Street, Downpatrick BT30 6BP

downartscentre@nmandd.org



[downartscentre](https://www.facebook.com/downartscentre)



[downartscentre1](https://www.instagram.com/downartscentre1)



Comhairle Ceantair

**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**

**Newry, Mourne
and Down**

District Council

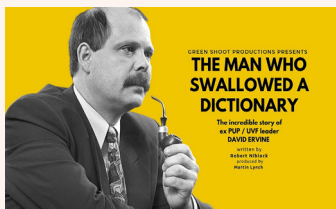


STUDIO NIGHTS FIL CAMPBELL & TOM MCFARLAND

DATE: THURSDAY 31 AUGUST
TIME: 7PM - 9PM
PRICE: £12
VENUE: STUDIO BAR AT DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Since the 90's Fil Campbell and Tom McFarland have been singing and playing as a musical duo. Their unique combination of blending vocals, guitar and percussion plus the ability to mix their original compositions with traditional and contemporary songs – punctuated by the Irish gift of chat and craic – has won the hearts and minds of audiences around the world.

Join them both as they launch Studio Nights, an intimate evening of acoustic live music in the studio bar at Down Arts Centre.



THE MAN WHO SWALLOWED A DICTIONARY

DATE: FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £18 / £16 CONCESSION
PRESENTED BY: GREENSHOOT PRODUCTIONS
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Following an outstanding success with In The Name of the Son in 2022, Green Shoot is delighted to be touring The Man Who Swallowed A Dictionary – a new play by Bobby Niblock, about the life of ex UVF and PUP politician, David Ervine.

This one-man show chronicles the remarkable life of Ervine, from the backstreets of East Belfast to Long Kesh prisoner to political negotiations at the White House and Downing Street. From his personal family tragedies to becoming the man who is widely regarded as the man who did the most to deliver the Protestant working class to support the Good Friday Agreement.

It's a remarkable story, providing a great insight into not just the man but the Protestant community in the most turbulent period of the Troubles.



TRUTH LOVE OR PROMISE

DATE: FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £15
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Internationally-acclaimed writer and actor Nuala McKeever (In The Window) is back with a new one woman drama about identity, love and the power of friendship.

Set in a creative writing class in Belfast, this poignant dark comedy looks at what happens when things don't go the way we want in life.

We meet Brenda, Maureen and Joanna, who each week get to know each other through their stories. But it's clear that it's the things they're leaving out, that really tell the tale.

And when the truth turns out to be shocking, they have to decide what really matters most – Truth, Love or Promise.

"That was astounding! Humour and pathos cheek by jowl. That was pure O'Casey or Shakespeare." Jim Lockhart
"A masterclass in writing, performing and timing." Cathy McCullough, Director John O'Connor Writing School Festival
"Just brilliant. Just beautiful." Barry Devlin



THE HEN DO

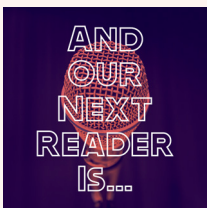
DATE: SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £23
PRESENTED BY: GBL PRODUCTIONS
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Have you been missing Bridesmaids Becky? Worry no more! Because bonkers Becky from the smash hit, Bridesmaids of Northern Ireland is back - and this time it's SHE who is getting married! Alongside her little sister Katie and her Mum Sally, Becky heads to Ibiza for her 'away hen'. Expect glowsticks, cocktails, banging tunes and loads of chaos, as our gang celebrate dysfunctional family relationships and free tequila on this roller-coaster of a Hen Do.

Written by Diona Doherty, 'The Hen do' is her much anticipated follow-up to Bridesmaids of Northern Ireland

Please note this production contains some strong language and adult material.

Recommended for ages 16+



GERALDINE O'KANE & COLIN DARDIS: AND OUR NEXT READER IS...

DATE: THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER
TIME: 7PM - 9PM
PRICE: FREE
VENUE: STUDIO BAR AT DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Poets Geraldine O'Kane and Colin Dardis host an open mic night, welcoming writers of all styles and experiences to come and share their work. Whether it's poems, flash fiction, memoir or other prose, we want to hear it!

Hosts of the popular, long-running Purely Poetry open mic night in Belfast, Geraldine will be reading from her debut collection, Unsafe (Salmon Poetry) and Colin from his latest titles, Apocrypha: Collected Early Poems and All This Light In Which To See The Dead: Pandemic Journals 2020-21.

The mic then passes to you to read your own words, in a welcoming and supportive environment. Whether you're a first-timer or a seasoned pro, the floor is open for you to share.



BRIGID O'NEILL

DATE: FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £15 / £13
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

"An immensely gifted storyteller whose songs soar to new heights in the live environment" Hot Press

We are delighted to welcome back Brigid O'Neill to Down Arts

Centre for her hometown gig of the year!

Described by Fiachna O'Braonáin RTÉ, as a "beautiful songwriter with great empathy and sensitivity" and Ralph McLean of BBC Radio Ulster as "a great songwriter with a voice that can break your heart at 30 paces" Brigid's music effortlessly weaves elements of folk, country, and jazz into relatable tales of happiness, heartbreak, and the human condition. Whilst echoes of artists such as Emmylou Harris, Alison Krauss and Mary Black come to mind, O'Neill's voice and sound is very much her own.

This promises to be a beautiful performance that you will not want to miss!



THE ELVIS SPECTACULAR SHOW

DATE: FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £22
PRESENTED BY: TCB PRODUCTIONS
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

If you only plan on seeing one Elvis show this year make sure it's The Elvis Spectacular Show starring European Champion, Ciaran Houlihan with his TCB Band and The Sweet Sensations.

Experience the thrill of a live 9 piece band with authentic costumes as Ciaran, the band and the beautiful backing singers take you on a two hour trip to Elvis heaven.

Relive the early days of rock and roll in the 1950s, right through to the glitzy Vegas shows of the 1970s including of course the iconic Elvis jumpsuit.

Some people like to rock, some people like to roll but moving and a grooving seems to satisfy my soul!



GREEN & BLUE

DATE: FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £15 / £13 CONCESSION
PRESENTED BY: KABOSH THEATRE COMPANY
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

The award-winning Green & Blue explores the painful and humorous realities faced by the individuals who patrolled the border during the height of the conflict.

An officer from the Royal Ulster Constabulary in his green uniform and Eddie from An Garda Síochána, resplendent in blue, communicate via crackly radios

until an explosive incident forces them to meet across a field only farmers know the location of.

Focusing on what it's like to be hunted when you're protecting a man-made line on the ground, the play looks at the societal and human cost of borders.

'Green & Blue' is based on real-life interviews with former serving officers.

Winner of The Lustrum Award for Best Theatrical Moment at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe

'profound and politically charged' [The Stage]



RÉALTA ft MYLES MCCORMACK

DATE: FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £16 / £14
PRESENTED BY: MOVING ON MUSIC
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Réalta, the dynamic Ulster-based Irish traditional group, return this Autumn with their eagerly anticipated third studio album, Thing Of The Earth. The band have joined forces with acclaimed Belfast singer Myles McCormack to record a special blend of traditional and contemporary tunes and songs, all performed with the group's trademark passion and skill.

Formed in Belfast in 2012, Réalta quickly established themselves as one of the most exciting acts on the Irish music scene, earning stellar reviews for their live performances and innovative approach to traditional melodies.

Featuring Conor Lamb (uilleann pipes / whistles), Deirdre Galway (guitar), Dermot Mulholland (bouzouki / double bass / banjo vocals), Dermot Moynagh (bodhrán) and Breton musician Loïc Bléjean (uilleann pipes / whistles), each musician's infectious energy, impressive musicianship and deep love for the music is evident throughout every performance.





THE SODA POPZ ROCK N ROLL SHOW

DATE: FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £16
PRESENTED BY: SHOWBIRD PRODUCTIONS
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

The Soda Popz are bringing their spectacular Rock'n'Roll show to Downpatrick! This high energy show has been wowing audiences, young and old, all over the country, paying an authentic tribute to some of the best-loved hits from the fabulous 1950's/60's. So put your glad rags on and join us for the best retro experience around with toe-tapping Rock 'n' Roll hits from iconic artists such as Johnny Cash, Elvis, Buddy Holly, Connie Francis and many more!

"Highly recommend the Soda Popz – they are great fun and really know how to keep everyone entertained!! What a fantastic atmosphere they create too!!"



CELTIC SOUL

DATE: FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £17
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

The award-winning Celtic Soul are returning to Downpatrick with their definitive tribute to Van Morrison. With years of playing in blues, folk, trad and jazz bands, the seven-piece band have the ingredients to deliver Van's music authentically. Expect to hear songs from right across Van's musical history including the big hits as well as stand out album tracks.

Celtic Soul are Clarke Wilson on Vocals and Saxophone, Ray McEvoy (Electric Guitar), Marcus McAuley (Acoustic Guitar), Rik Gay (Drums), Keith Ward (Piano and keyboards), Gerry McClurg (Trumpet) and Mark Crockard (Electric and Double Bass)

Let Celtic Soul take you on a journey through the songbook of our very own musical legend!



ANTHONY TONER

DATE: SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £14 / £12
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Anthony Toner returns to the stage at Down Arts Centre to celebrate the release of Ghost Notes Vol 2, a brand new collection of cover songs, rendered in his usual warm, intimate style.

Acclaimed as one of our finest singer songwriters, Anthony is a hugely talented guitarist and storyteller, so expect an evening of stories, songs and occasional poetic selections, and favourites from across his huge back catalogue, including 'Well Well Well', 'The Road to Fivemiletown' and 'An Alphabet', among others.



FIVE DAYS

DATE: FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £15 / £13
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

In April 2005, writer Joe Nawaz and his family travelled from Belfast to the wilds of Pakistan on the trail of a mystery. The mystery of how, where and why his father Rab had been murdered there. In this fiercely funny and poignant production, join Joe as he takes us to the land of his father, where he never felt more Irish, as he sketches some of the history of that country and its unlikely links with Ireland.

Interrogating the very blurred lines between factual, personal experience and memory, Five Days is a celebration of family and an exploration of identity in a place where identity is still contentious, Joe has written extensively about growing up mixed-race in NI. In the wake of the centenary of NI and current local political disfunction, this show offers a unique perspective on partitions of all kinds. "Go see Joe Nawaz's harrowing, funny and deeply moving Five Days... as raw a piece of autobiographical theatre as I've ever seen. Strange, unsettling and always compelling." Jimmy Fay, Executive Producer, Lyric Theatre.



LITTLE MISS MUFFET'S CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE

DATE: FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER
TIME: 7PM
PRICE: £10 ADULT / £7 CHILD
PRESENTED BY: CENTRE STAGE THEATRE COMPANY
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Miss Muffet's Tuffet is magic. Every Christmas Day it makes a dream come true, and Ditzzi Devilola the Dim Witch wants it! When it's stolen, poor Miss Muffet is in great distress - but help is at hand, from a Handsome Prince, Jack and Jill, and a very surprising ally!

The eternal appeal of this classic nursery rhyme makes this a golden opportunity to present this production from the North's première producer of Christmas plays, with their usual values of clean family entertainment, funny and immediate scripts, simple effects, live original music, memorable tunes and strong performances.

With loads of audience participation, Little Miss Muffet's Christmas Adventure is in the very best traditions of Christmas Entertainment.



THE BELFAST MA: MAKIN CHRISTMAS

DATE: SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER
TIME: 8PM (BAR AVAILABLE FROM 7PM)
PRICE: £20
PRESENTED BY: GAMBIT THEATRE COMPANY
VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

The Belfast Ma is back this Christmas with her brand-new comedy theatre Show The Belfast Ma: Makin Christmas, starring TikTok Sensation Paul Nugent as everyone's favourite Ma, Sadie Devine.

Join Sadie in her living room with a wee glass of baileys and a feg as she tries to make Christmas special for everyone. Her long-suffering neighbour Patricia, Dirty Gerty from Number 30, her sister Theresa, husband John and of course her favourite Nephew Stevie.

This year's best Christmas Comedy is one show you won't want to miss. Sure, nothin makes Christmas like a wee glass of Bailey's with Yer Ma!



TAI CHI

DATE:	TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER FOR 6 WKS
	TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER FOR 6 WKS
TIME:	12:30 – 1:30 OR 6 - 7PM
PRICE:	£35/£30 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	PETESY BURNS
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Tai Chi is a gentle flowing exercise which aims to enhance the bodies intrinsic energy system. The main benefits are relaxation and physical and mental balance. As well as this Tai Chi works on strengthening the core and is a cardiovascular exercise. At its core Tai Ch promotes physical and mental well-being through focusing the practitioner on the individual moves and creating a sense of truly being in the moment. As the nature of the movement is slow and gentle Tai Chi is suitable for all regardless of age or ability.



CROCHET: BEGINNERS

DATE:	TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER FOR 10 WEEKS
TIME:	7PM - 9PM
PRICE:	£75/£70 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	LUCINDA GUY
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

On this inspirational course you will learn the basic principles of crochet: chain stitch, double and treble stitch, simple shaping, easy crochet squares and circles, edgings, flowers and leaves. You will also learn how to follow charts, understand written patterns, use finishing techniques and choose the right yarns. This course is ideal for beginners and improvers and each week there will be patterns for original projects to work on. Although the course will follow a schedule, the teaching is flexible, allowing you to go at your own pace. By the end of the course you will be able to build on your knowledge and progress to more creative work.



OSSIA GUITAR

DATE:	WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER FOR 10WKS
TIME:	5PM - 6PM AFTER SCHOOLS CLUB
	6.15PM - 7.15PM (BEGINNERS)
	7.30 PM - 8.30PM (IMPROVERS)
PRICE:	£55/£50 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	PAUL MCMORDIE
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

In a relaxed and informal setting, all students will gain valuable playing experience whilst having fun. A perfect option for all beginner guitarists seeking a fun-based learning programme. All aspects of guitar playing will be touched upon, from basic rhythms to fundamental finger style.



POTTERY

DATE:	WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER FOR 10WKS
TIME:	7 - 9PM
PRICE:	£110/£100 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	ÁINE MCKENNA
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Learn how to work with clay using hand-building techniques such as slab work, pinch pots, coiling, using formers and more. Create unique pieces from pots, figures, animals, bowls and more. Fee includes clay, glazes and firings.



PAINTING

DATE:	WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER FOR 10WKS
TIME:	7PM - 9PM
PRICE:	£75/£70 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	MARTIN MCPARLAND
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

This painting course is aimed at both beginners and those who have some experience of acrylic painting. The sessions will cover essentials such as basic equipment and materials, getting started, choosing subject matter, composition, colour, perspective, still life and landscape.



CREATIVE WRITING

DATE:	WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER FOR 10WKS
TIME:	7PM-9PM
PRICE:	£75/£70 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	DR CATHERINE KELLY
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

These workshop-based classes are designed to support those who wish to explore and develop their writing skills. They will cover topics such as writers' tools and sources, character and plot, as well as looking at a variety of styles including short stories, scriptwriting and poetry. Opportunities to experiment with different types of writing will be provided to enable participants to find and enhance their own writer's voice. Whether for fun or with a view to publication, this course aims to find ways to unlock imagination and to develop a greater awareness of craft.



SILVER JEWELLERY MAKING

DATE:	TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER FOR 6WKS
TIME:	6.30PM - 9PM
PRICE:	£115 / £110 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	KAREN DAYE - HUTCHINSON
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Suitable for beginners with no previous jewellery experience. An exciting course to include a traditional and contemporary approach to jewellery making and design. You will be guided through the basics of annealing, cutting, soldering, doming, texturing and the use of safe enamelling to build towards a little jewellery collection. Course tutor: Karen Daye-Hutchinson owner of 'Ghost & Bonesetter' jewellery.

Materials and Tools: Basic materials including copper sheet and wire will be given as part of the class. Individuals may wish to purchase precious metal, stones, etc. as you go along. The price of these can be discussed and advised individually with your tutor. If you have some jewellery making hand tools you can bring them along.



GLASS PAINTING

DATE: TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 10AM – 4PM (SANDWICH LUNCH INCLUDED)
PRICE: £55/ £50 CONCESSION
TUTOR: NAOMI WHAN
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Glass painting is a lovely craft workshop to do! You will learn to play with light and form to explore the versatility of the translucent paint. A number of glass painting methods will be shown including sponging, adding embellishments and mixing colours as well as techniques for brush painting and how to use outliners and peel – offs. Everyone will each paint a beautiful glass piece of their choice. All the materials you will need are provided including paints, brushes and design ideas.

SILVER STACKING RINGS



DATE: SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 10AM - 4 PM
 (SANDWICH LUNCH / MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £65 / £60 CONCESSION
TUTOR: KAREN DAYE-HUTCHINSON
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Learn how to make rings using traditional hand tools & jewellery making methods. This one day course is a fun way to be creative and productive; and at the end you will have a beautiful set of silver stacking rings to take home. The course is taught with demonstrations to a small group with individual attention being given where needed.

You can customise your designs by adding texture or additional details, or you can leave your rings plain or a combination – it's up to you. All materials included in the cost.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR? Beginners and people who have made some jewellery before. **TECHNIQUES COVERED:** Calculating the length of metal for your size ring cutting wire to length, Texturing using a hammer, forming a ring shape, Soldering, Filing, Finishing, Adding additional detail.



KOKEDAMA

DATE: SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 10 – 12 NOON & 1PM TO 3PM (MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £40 / £35 CONCESSION
TUTOR: JOANNE DONNELLY
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

During this workshop you will learn how to create your own unique hanging (or standing!) plant display using a traditional Japanese technique known as Kokedama. Kokedama, a Japanese term that translates as “ball of moss”, are plants which grow in a moss-covered ball and often sit on a decorative tray or plate on a table or shelf etc, they also look amazing hanging!

You will be guided through the steps of creating your own Kokedama, from preparing the plant, soil and moss through to forming the soil ball, wrapping the plant in moss and then tying it all together. You’ll also learn how to care for and keep your Kokedama thriving.

This is a fun and creative workshop that allows you to connect with nature and make something beautiful to take home.”



NATURALLY SOAP

DATE: SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER
TIME: 10:30AM – 1PM (MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £30 / £25 CONCESSION
TUTORS: IRENE GOURLEY & PAMELA MAWHINNEY
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

If you are interested in making your own hand made soap using only natural ingredients, then this hands-on workshop is for you. Tutors, Pamela Mawhinney and Irene Gourley from local business Naturally Soap, will teach you the ancient craft of soap making using the traditional cold process method. The basic skills taught in this workshop will enable you to go home and make your own soap with ease. All materials will be provided; however, attendees must bring their own apron, disposable gloves, a small towel and wear long sleeves and full shoes.



LINOCUT PRINTMAKING

DATE: SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

TIME: 10AM - 4 PM

(SANDWICH LUNCH /
MATERIALS INCLUDED)

PRICE: £50 / £50 CONCESSION

TUTORS: DÓNALL BILLINGS

VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Explore the Art of Linocut Printmaking! Join our exciting one-day class and unlock your creativity with lino carving and printing. Whether you're a beginner or simply want to experience the joy of carving and printing, this course is perfect for you. Get ready to transfer your image onto archival printmaking paper using a single selected colour or black ink.

All the materials you need will be provided, and our expert instructors will guide you every step of the way. No need to worry about bringing anything else but your enthusiasm!

Please note that the lino size for this class is limited to A5 (14.8 x 21 cm). This allows for focused learning and ensures you can create a stunning piece within the workshop's timeframe.

To make your experience truly personal, please bring along an image or idea to work from. It could be anything that inspires you – drawings, sketches, or even photographs. Mark your calendars for the upcoming class. This allows ample time for carving, refining, and perfecting your linocut print.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to explore the art of linocut printmaking! Join us, unleash your creativity, and walk away with a beautiful piece of art that you can proudly display. Reserve your spot today and let the artistic journey begin!



SEWING MACHINE BASICS

DATE: SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER

TIME: 10:00AM - 4PM

(SANDWICH LUNCH & MATERIALS INCLUDED)

PRICE: £55/£50 CONCESSION

TUTOR: NAOMI WHAN

VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

A workshop specifically made for those who are completely new to sewing, or who would like a refresher course on modern machines. You will learn how to thread a machine, wind the bobbin and how to sew basic stitches. We will talk about stitch width, length, and tension. By the end of the workshop, you will learn how to sew a zipped purse. Participants should bring along a sewing machine (in good working order) with a spare needle. If you don't have a sewing machine, enquire at time of booking and one may be available to use.



WOVEN WILLOW BIRD FEEDERS

DATE:	SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER
TIME:	10AM – 3PM
	(SANDWICH LUNCH & MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE:	£70/£65 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	CLIVE LYTTLE WELIG NATURAL CRAFTS
VENUE:	DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Give the birds a helping hand this winter and join us on this bird feeder weaving workshop. You will have the opportunity to weave a couple of different designs of feeder during the workshop. At the end of the day take home your newly woven bird feeders and watch the birds flock in. All tools, materials and full instruction from our willow expert Clive Lyttle will be provided.



SCREEN PRINT WORKSHOP

DATE:	SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER
TIME:	10AM – 4PM
	(SANDWICH LUNCH & MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE:	£55 / £50 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	DÓNALL BILLINGS
VENUE:	DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

The class is designed to be accessible and beneficial to both beginners and those looking to refresh their skills. We provide a supportive environment where you can explore your creativity and develop your screen-printing abilities.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to immerse yourself in the art of screen printing. Reserve your spot today and get ready to unleash your creativity and walk away with beautiful, printed pieces that you can proudly showcase. Join us for an unforgettable journey into the world of screen printing!

Please forward your images (A4 size) to studio@bpw.org.uk in preparation for this class as screens will be prepared in advance of the class.



PUMPKIN SUCCULENT PLANTERS

DATE:	SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER
TIME:	10AM - 12 OR 1PM – 3PM
	(MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE:	£40 / £35 CONCESSION
TUTOR:	JOANNE DONNELLY
VENUE:	DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Autumn means pumpkins! So, for something different, come along to this fun and funky workshop where you will combine pumpkins and plants to create a beautiful pumpkin centrepiece using moss and succulent cuttings that will last throughout autumn and beyond (you can plant the succulent cuttings after the pumpkin has gone!).

No waste and no pumpkin carving required just a relaxing time creating your own beautiful pumpkin and succulent showpiece!



BEES WAX WRAPS

DATE: SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER
TIME: 10AM- 12:30 OR 1:30 – 4PM
(MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £30/£25 CONCESSION
TUTOR: GWEN EARNSHAW
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Join Gwen Earnshaw, Beekeeper and owner of Natural Botanical Skincare and Soy Candle Company, The Honeysuckle Bee and Me and learn how to make and take home your own set of eco-friendly beeswax food wraps.

Eco beeswax wraps are an attractive, plastic free alternative to food bags and cling film for wrapping and storing food in. We will be making a set of 3 sizes. They can be washed and reused for months. Come along and enjoy a fun and relaxing session, no previous experience is required. All equipment and refreshments are included.



WOVEN WILLOW HARE

DATE: SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER
TIME: 10AM – 4.30PM
(SANDWICH LUNCH & MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £85/£80 CONCESSION
TUTOR: CLIVE LYTTLE WELIG NATURAL CRAFTS
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

In this exciting workshop you will create a basic willow hare using random weave techniques. In this willow sculpture workshop Clive Lyttle from Welig Heritage Crafts will guide you through the creation of your piece. All tools and materials are provided. No previous experience necessary.



DRYPOINT WORKSHOPS

DATE: SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER
TIME: 10AM – 4.00PM
(SANDWICH LUNCH & MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £55/£50 CONCESSION
TUTOR: COBY MOORE
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Drypoint is an intaglio printmaking method that involves scratching an image into a plate with a pointed tool. These lines create a burr that holds ink, meaning that the print reveals the drawing. Intaglio printmaking is the opposite of relief printmaking as it is the sunken areas of the plate that print rather than the raised areas.

Drypoint workshops are suitable for both beginners or people who have done some printmaking before but want a refresher. Experience in printmaking is not required as the tutor will guide you through each process in a step-by-step way through demonstrations and showing examples of the different techniques.

Please bring along an image or idea that inspires you. It could be a drawing, a sketch, or even a photograph.



CLOSED TERRARIUM WORKSHOP

DATE: SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER
TIME: 10AM – 11:30 & 12:30 – 2PM
(MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £40/£35 CONCESSION
TUTOR: JOANNE DONNELLY
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

During this 90-minute workshop you will learn more about the science behind these self-sustaining ecosystems, I will then demonstrate the process of building a terrarium, the tools and materials required to do so and cover all relevant maintenance and plant care advice. Then it's over to you to choose your plants and create your own unique terrarium!



CHRISTMAS WREATHS

DATE: SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER
TIME: 10AM – 12:30 & 1:30PM – 4PM
(MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £55/£50 CONCESSION
TUTOR: CLIVE LYTTLE
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

During this half day workshop, run twice in the same day to allow for your busy Christmas schedule, we will be making a beautiful door wreath for your home. Using locally grown, colourful willow, holly, spruce and pine, we will produce a wonderful wreath, under the guidance of tutor Clive Lyttle. If time allows, we may also produce decorative willow stars for the tree or table.



BOOK BINDING

DATE: SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER
TIME: 10AM – 4.00PM
(SANDWICH LUNCH & MATERIALS INCLUDED)
PRICE: £55/£50 CONCESSION
TUTOR: KAREN DAYE-HUTCHINSON
VENUE: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Make a beautiful hand stitched book during this one day course. Learn the essentials of this craft with step-by-step instructions on how to make your own journal or artist book. This is a great foundation in traditional bookmaking and how it can be adapted.



PRISM: DOWN

DATE: THURSDAY 31 AUGUST – FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

TIME: DURING OPENING HOURS

PRICE: FREE

VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Prism Print International is an internationally based organisation founded in 2012 to promote artistic exchange, collaboration and international understanding through fine art printmaking. Prism draws its roots from the profound international experience of two alumni of Camberwell School of Arts & Design. Founders John Akatsu Read and Nigel Oxley curated the first Prism exhibition of UK and Japanese represented by Yanagisawa Gallery, Tokyo.

Thirteen years later this voluntary organisation has 46 selected artists from 18 countries and a catalogue of international and national exhibitions. The exhibitions have only one continuous theme 'Printmaking' and allow each artist to be seen with prints of the highest standard where process and technique can be appreciated as well as their singular vision, influenced or not by their nationality.

Curated for Down Arts Centre by Prism Print International member Karen Daye-Hutchinson ARUA ARE has selected the works for this important exhibition of 'naked prints'. Unframed original prints for the full appreciation of the real quality of mark and colour, of paper texture and even aroma.

Image: Karen Daye-Hutchinson, Rembrandts Extinction - in progress, 76cm x 56cm, 2023, Image courtesy of the artist



RE-CONNECTING

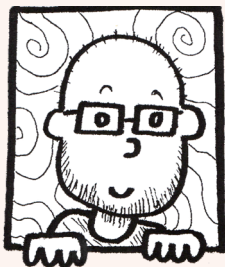
DATE: THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER - FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER

TIME: DURING OPENING HOURS

PRICE: FREE

VENUE: DOWN ARTS CENTRE

Rachel Fitzpatrick is a designer and maker working at the interfaces of art, design and social practice. Re-Connecting explores the artist's reconnection with making and colour while learning to reframe her creativity living with acquired brain injury. Re-Connecting spans the gallery spaces exploring visual elements of Rachel's rediscovery of her creativity. Her work initially began with making but with an absence of confidence in colour. The pieces explore reconnection with colour through making, place and storytelling with pieces taking inspiration from stories depicted in native folk songs.



HOW TO UNEXPLODE

DATE:	THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER - FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER
TIME:	DURING OPENING HOURS
PRICE:	FREE
VENUE:	DOWN ARTS CENTRE

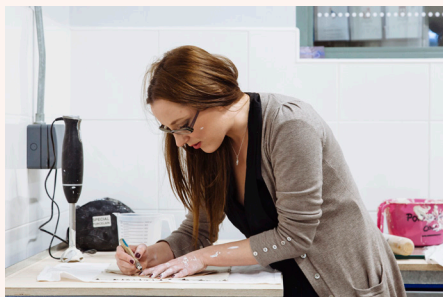
Patrick Sanders (14 July 1976 – 16 January 2017) - illustrator, performer, artist and activist.

Patrick sought to explore and confront stupidity and prejudice in every sphere of his short life, seeking to use his undoubted skills to educate where possible and lampoon where not. A gentle radical; his art is incendiary only when strictly necessary. His death by suicide in 2017 robbed the world of a unique voice and an emerging talent who was just beginning to get deserved recognition for his inspired and insightful work.

He spoke out against medieval bigotry and oafishness and used his exceptional artistic talent to imagine a more enlightened, united Northern Ireland. He was central to the grassroots arts scene and understood its importance as a breeding ground for protest and political transformation.

This exhibition is just a small selection of his extraordinary body of work, his legacy, and his unique world view. He will be forever missed. But his work shines on.

This exhibition is dedicated to fearlessness, to glorious mischief, to hope and to love.



ÁINE McKENNA

Artist in Residence 2023

Local Designer/Maker Áine McKenna specialises in creating beautifully unique ceramics for gift and home.

Following a degree in Fine and Applied art from University of Ulster she went on to do a Masters in Ceramic Design at Staffordshire University in the heart of the potteries, Stoke on Trent.

During this time she had the unique

opportunity to do an industrial placement with leading tableware manufacturer Dudson Ltd. and so began her love for surface pattern.

After graduation she went on to work for Royal Stafford/Poole pottery as a surface pattern designer. Utilising her skills as a fine artist she was able to create collections depicting hand painted elements and her illustrations for mass produced tableware.

Having a strong affiliation with the pottery industry, she is hugely influenced by industrial techniques and processes and her fine art background is evident in the work she produces today.

As Artist in Residence Áine will be on-site full time where visitors can see her at work. She will also deliver a programme of pottery classes available for both adults and children, all while developing a new body of work and curating exhibitions.

Áine's work will be available to buy at the craft shop in Down Arts Centre.



DRAMABILITY

Dramability are very excited to be bringing 'Cinderella' to DAC this Christmas. Expect to boo, hiss, clap and cheer as they bring all the usual pantomime fun to the stage in their own unique style. This panto is great fun for all the family and we recommend booking early as it's sure to sell out. There are two matinee performances on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December, both at 2.30pm.

Following the successful launch of 'Stages', Dramability's own musical theatre pop-up cafe, the group are looking forward to 'popping up' again with themed events over the Halloween and Christmas periods. As before, customers will be served not just coffee and delicious homebaked treats but also a selection of musical numbers from stage and screen. Watch out for further details!

DOWN ARTS CENTRE CRAFT SHOP

Down Arts Centre hosts a craft shop specialising in the best of craft both regionally and abroad. Artists include Gill Graham, Mount Ida Pottery and Ghost and Bonesetter plus prints from both Belfast and Seacourt Print Workshops.

Come in and collect that special gift or just a treat for yourself.



BOOKING INFORMATION

The Down Arts team are pleased to let our customers know we now have online booking from our website

www.downartscentre.com

You can still call us on 0330 137 4014 or drop in to book tickets.

Open to the public Monday to Friday
10am – 4.30pm

Down Arts Centre
2 – 6 Irish Street, Downpatrick BT30 6BP

downartscentre@nmandd.org



downartscentre



downartscentre1



Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**

**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council