

Coleraine Ulster Scots Regeneration Group – Charity number 102814

Trustees Report - 2017

About the Charity

Our group manages a community resource centre which provides a focal hub for the local Ulster Scots and Orange communities. Various cultural and historical workshops are run allowing people to learn about local history, the history and heritage of the Orange Order and the contribution of Ulster Scots locally and world-wide.

Training is also facilitated to provide members of local voluntary and community groups with the necessary skills to achieve their purpose; this is delivered in partnership with various organisations.

We also hold exhibitions and tuition classes in the centre and it is used by many local organisations, including other cultural groups, the local bands association and marshalling forum to hold meetings and training sessions.

Visitors to the centre can learn about our culture and heritage through items on display in the centre, our large collection of books available for research purposes and various publications which are freely available.

We work in partnership with other local organisations, including the Loyal Orders and other cultural groups to organise a range of events including community festivals and exhibitions; these events give the general public an opportunity to learn about the culture and heritage of the area and the loyal orders and attendant culture.

How the charity is funded

The main source of funding was income generated from making the centre available to organisations to run out a range of activities including the Somme Centenary project, an Ulster Scots summer school and various courses.

Administration Information

During 2017 the group was based in Coleraine Ulster Scots Resource Centre, located on the upper two floors of Coleraine Orange Hall, meeting monthly. The trustees are as follows: Robert McIlreavy, Thomas Stirling, Joanne Honeyford, Ivan Morrison, Henry Millen, John Caldwell, Lorna McAfee, Kevin Pearce, Hopkin Stewart.

Activities undertaken and the furtherance of the Charities purposes

The purposes of the charity are to promote and preserve the Ulster Scots culture and heritage; to promote and preserve the Orange culture and heritage; to advance knowledge, awareness and understanding of the history of Coleraine and district area; and to provide facilities in the interests of the social welfare, education, recreation or other leisure-time activities. Beneficiaries are the general public especially those living in Coleraine and district.

This was a difficult year for the group with several key members having to step back due to personal circumstances. This decreased group capacity led to an increased reliance on partnership working to deliver activities to meet group aims.

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Activities run out in the centre during the year included a Brexit Information evening, a series of talks relating to WW1, a Christmas event for senior citizens and a range of other social and educational activities.

This has been a difficult year for the group with several key members suffering health problems and the level of commitment shown by group members to keeping the centre open is much appreciated.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanne Honeyford', with a small flourish at the end.

Joanne Honeyford