

Annual Report 2023-24

Randalstown Ulster Scots Cultural Society provides community and social programming for the local Randalstown area and beyond through the Randalstown Memorial Orange Hall.

Randalstown Ulster Scots Cultural Society operate a programming timetable that ensures the hall is used most evenings and weekends by the resident 8 groups and also for birthday parties, and community social events.

Within the year of April 2023 to March 2024 we have hosted weekly circuits class, weekly dance classes, capacity building workshops to include committee skills, first aid, public speaking, child protection, finance and governance training, mental health and suicide prevention, internet safety, events management, events marshalling, PR/Media Training and risk assessment.

A flavour of some of the activities we have provided include the following-

1 x Burns Night Dinner

35 x Senior Citizens Events/Programmes

2 x Youth Ulster Scots Summer Schools

1 x Cultural Festival

1 x Kings Coronation

We provide low or no cost events which meet the needs of the 30.26% economically inactive within the area. 1 in 5 in the area have a prescription for a mood or anxiety disorder. Therefore our focus on mental health is paramount to addressing this.

Randalstown Ulster Scots Cultural Society brings added value to Community Development work in the area by

-engaging with ethnic minorities and other minority communities to engage with activities in the community hub

-providing programmes to those with disabilities a safe and accessible environment

Through participation to underpin good community development and ensure maximum community impact, the participants have experienced

- A reduction in social isolation and bring the local community together

- Increased awareness of current community issues

- Increased capacity through education and awareness raising

- Good relations through an open and accessible event to all

- Networking and partnership with community sector and public sector organisations

- Strengthened community participation through interactive activities

- Inter-generational working

- Be able to openly address health and wellbeing taboo subjects to include suicide and mental health

- High quality premises at an affordable price