

The Opening of

NEWRY & MOURNE'S BRIGHT NEW WEEKLY

NEWRY Democrat

19 Hill Street, Newry, County Down. Telephone: (0693) 251250 Fax: (0693) 251017

DERM

ROSTREVOR will bloom from tomorrow. For Dermot Norrish, Floral Arts and Crafts is a new venture.

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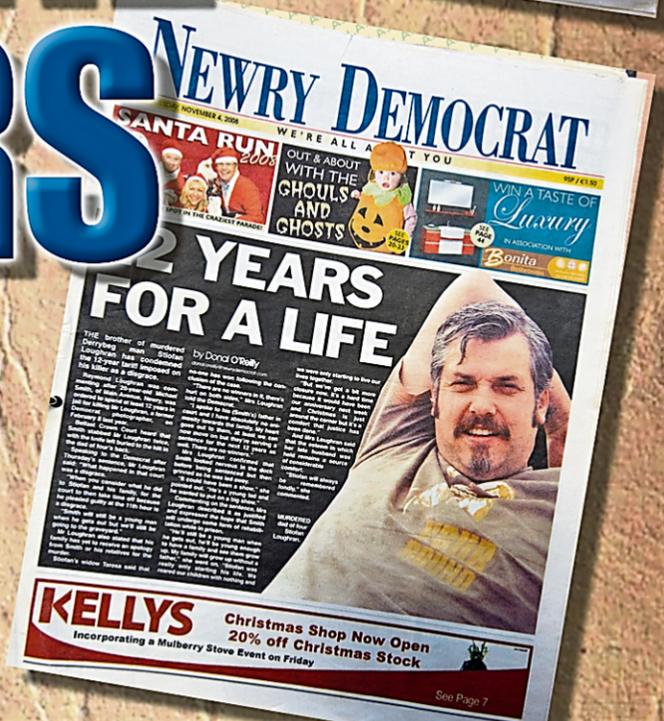
oporating Downocrat

& Mourne's exciting new weekly paper hits the streets

Breathing a fresh air into Newry and Mourne with:-

LOOKING BACK ON TWENTY FIVE YEARS WITH THE NEWRY DEMOCRAT

HEADLINE MAKERS



The Newry Democrat - your paper for the last 25 years

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MANY famous events unfolded in September 1994.

For most from the Mourne County it marked their fourth All-Ireland Football title when they defeated Dublin at Headquarters.

There to capture that magical moment was a newspaper, only in it infancy, the Newry Democrat.

Just four days prior to that historic win for Pete McGrath and his men, the Newry Democrat hit the streets for the first time.

In the beginning it shared a lot of its content with the Down Democrat and it was not until the end of 2008 that it became a stand-alone newspaper.

Over the last 25 years the Newry Democrat has experienced and embraced many changes.

New owners; new staff; new styles and new ways in which news is brought to the people of Newry, Mourne and Down.

A quarter of a century ago who would have believed that one day you could get all the latest news from your watch.

The use of a 36mm camera is almost obsolete such is the technology with the introduction of the mobile phone.

With advanced technology comes change, some say for the better, some less than enthusiastic.

When you browse through old editions of the Newry Democrat and compare

them with the publication today, one thing hasn't changed....the news.

OK, the style of the paper may have changed but the news content remains the same.

What was making the headlines 25 years ago is still headline-making a quarter of a century on.

The faces have changed as one would expect, but in general many events replicate themselves year after year.

Thankfully one major change, which came in, was the ending of 25 years of violence on the streets; towns and villages throughout Northern Ireland.

Down like any other county had its dark days and the Press was there to document some of the worst atrocities during 'The Troubles'.

Even in 2019 we still record stories from this traumatic period in our history.

Without the support and help of business people and communities, the Newry Democrat would not be the success story it is today.

Week in and week out, they contribute in their own way either through advertising; providing stories and pictures; buying the product or browsing through our wonderful website.

That is only one side of the story.

In the last quarter of a century many employees have gone through the doors of the Newry Democrat.

In Editorial and advertising, the num-

bers change along with technology, but the goal remains the same, to produce a product in print and online which serves everyone in the community; young and old.

Not forgetting also our freelance journalists and photographers - their contributions are immense.

To that end I wish to publicly thank all those who over the last twenty five years have played their part, in whatever small way it may have been, to making the Newry Democrat the paper it is today.

My first editor would say a weekly paper is like building a house.

You start with the foundations at the beginning of the week and seven days later the job is complete.

In this supplement we will reflect on the last twenty five years in the life and times of the Newry Democrat.

I know some of the pictures and stories will evoke happy memories.

On the flip side, memories will be rekindled of not so happy days.

It would be impossible to mention or publish every event but I hope there is something in the supplement for everyone.

On behalf of the staff at the Newry Democrat, a sincere thank you, and we hope for your support for many, many years to come.

Right - Former editor Michael Savage discussing the history of the Newry Democrat with Peter Bayne, current Editor.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWRY DEMOCRAT ON YOUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

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Celebrating 25 years of the Newry Democrat

Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade congratulates the Newry Democrat on 25 years of successful business in Newry.

For the past 25 years, the Newry Democrat has been at the heart of commercial life in the City of Newry. Local papers provide credibility and an understanding of what local people and communities want and need. They are the touchstone of local opinion and Newry, as a city, is fortunate it has a strong weekly newspaper market. We have local papers which are prepared to support and shape opinions, represent and advocate for local citizens, as well as challenging and articulating concerns on behalf of the people of Newry.

As a City it is important that we promote all that is good about Newry as a place to live, work, do business in and visit. Newry Chamber has welcomed the opportunity to partner with the Newry Democrat to promote business life in the city. From our regular features on business life in the city, through to the paper's support for events like the Greater Newry Business Awards, the

SRC's Big Apprenticeship event, the Christmas Charity and the profiling of many of our successful local businesses. For our small businesses, the Newry Democrat also provides a platform to promote their products and services.

Much has changed politically and economically from when the Newry Democrat was first published twenty-five years ago. Since then the paper has been at the heart of business and commercial life as Newry has grown from being a town to a vibrant city, with a thriving local economy at the heart of the Dublin - Belfast economic corridor.

Over the last 25 years Newry Chamber has enjoyed a positive relationship with the Newry Democrat and the editors who have been at the heart of the paper's success. We look forward to working with the paper for the next 25 years and beyond, as it reports on a growing, vibrant and prosperous Newry City and region.

Changing world of Newry Newspapers

By Rowan Hand

I have been treated kindly by life and in the strangest ability to "change horses" I went from service in the Merchant Navy to being a reporter/ photographer in a Newry newspaper, The Frontier Sentinel.

The Editor, the Nationalist Member of the Stormont Parliament Joe Connellon died in 1967. His deputy Max Kehoe took over the editorship and his parliamentary seat. I applied for and got the position of reporter, the vacancy created by Joe Connellon's death and Max Kehoe's promotion. With me in the Hill Street office of the Sentinel was the Dromintee man, Michael O'Rourke.

We shared the duties of reporting and photography, with Michael having additional skills in the matter of advertising sales. It was a small office with the photographic dark room stuck in at the back and a far from modern dark room it was, with the developer, the stop bath and the fixer being heated to the requisite temperature in a broken-handle aluminium pot. The pot was balanced on a one bar electric fire that had been tilted over on its back!

The Sentinel managing company, the North West of Ireland Printing and Publishing Company was based in Omagh, the avowedly nationalist empire of the Stormont Nationalist Senator, Patrick Magill.

On a daily basis we sent typed copy (stories) and the pictures that I took and developed, on the UTA afternoon bus to the company headquarters in Omagh.

The Frontier Sentinel was starved of investment money and was eventually closed by the owners.

Now, at the end of my career in journalism, fifty two years on, I am writing Rowan's Rambles with the Newry Democrat, just a hundred yards from what had been the Sentinel office, on the other side of Hill Street.

In the time in between I worked with the Irish Independent in their King Street office in Belfast, with RTE at Fanum House on Great Victoria in the city, then followed RTE in Dublin, the BBC in Belfast, and ending my national career with the RTE Nationwide programme.

My career had taken me from an almost Victorian past right through to the new world of computerisation and broadcasting across the Solar System. So much change had occurred. It was as though we had come under the influence of an extra-terrestrial intelligence and had been impregnated with the genes of a brave new world of science.

I am bound to tell you that I have no great qualification for recording these recollections. Time has taken its bite from the memory banks so what you read here is but snippets from the past and, as such, it is good to remember colleagues, Newry men, who were the heroes of the journalistic hour.

Fabian Boyle who made the world of Armagh Observer photography and story telling his own. Like George Connolly, still a snapper, Fabian was the most popular of newspaper men who mingled with the public and recorded the events of their lives.

With Johnny Priestly, the photographer with the Hodgett-owned family newspaper the Newry Reporter, we sallied forth to capture our double page spread photographs of the Newry evening events of celebration. The Newry establishments where these things occurred, mostly Guest Teas with music, dancing and sandwiches, were the Boulevard Hotel, the Imperial Hotel, The Ardmore (later to become the police station), Saint Colman's Parochial Hall, the old Parochial Hall, "Bucket" on Castle Street.

And in Warrenpoint, the Crown, the Liverpool, the Balmoral, the Osborne and they all, Newry and Warrenpoint, operated to the same formula, music, Guest Teas or dinners, dancing, and then the highlight of the evening, the arrival of the photographers.

Good friends and colleagues were always the journalists of the other newspapers.

We worked together, shared cars for the travelling to jobs, and, a familiar sight on Hill Street, our congregation at the Cathedral front door, for the wedding pictures always taken and carried as major stories in the local press.

The Belfast Telegraph had a local office on the Mall. The good-hearted Sam McAlpine was in charge with the wonderful and dapper journalist



Two sporting legends, Pat Jennings and Paddy O'Rourke, pictured in the Newry Democrat a decade ago

John McNulty. We had fun too like the day John and I travelled to Monaghan, guests of the local Monaghan Festival. I had started to dip my toe into the world of broadcasting and, with alacrity and much enthusiasm, I was at the microphone in the caravan at the end of the street.

But it would be done differently and I caused a bit of a "security scare". The crowds gathered and the gardai arrived at the caravan, when I announced that within the hour the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, Captain Terrance O'Neill, would arrive to declare the Festival "Open". It was a happening worthy of the best of April Fool stunts and, let joy be unconfined, I got

away without arrest.

We always had fun, much fun and the book of those times needs to be written but not by me. Such literature will be created by a more eloquent scribe than me and, now, as the sun begins to set below the western rim, a scribe with a better memory.

Go well dear friends.

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NEWRY DEMOCRAT
WE'RE ALL ABOUT YOU

nEwzone Ready for Business

We did it!

19 OCTOBER

16 Bid gathers pace in Dublin

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20 NEWRY CREDIT UNION LTD.

20 VOXDOD

20 Newry City's first born!

20 John Reid visit

20 Haldane Fisher wish to congratulate Newry on gaining City Status!

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city status success

WE did it!

Campaign for city status gets underway

After five months of intensive bidding, Newry has achieved its goal of becoming a city. We take a look back at how it all happened.

Mission moves to Belfast

After five months of intensive bidding, Newry has achieved its goal of becoming a city. We take a look back at how it all happened.

Bid gathers pace in Dublin

The bid for city status has gathered pace in Dublin as the campaign moves to the capital.

Campaign moves to London

The bid for city status has gathered pace in London as the campaign moves to the capital.

Newry Credit Union Ltd.

VOXDOD

Newry City's first born!

John Reid visit

Next Week: DEIRDRE Dunford from Burren cradles her new born daughter who was the first baby born into Newry City at exactly 6.17 am on Thursday morning.

NEWRY AWARDED CITY STATUS IN 2002

Newry City's first born!

DEIRDRE Dunford from Burren cradles her new born daughter who was the first baby born into Newry City at exactly 6.17 am on Thursday morning.

Picture: Noel Moan

20 NOVEMBER

John Reid visit

SECRETARY of State for Northern Ireland, John Reid, visited Newry on Tuesday, November 20, to mark the award of city status to Newry. Dr Reid and his team were welcomed to the Quays by the Mayor of Newry, John Reid.

City celebration: Gerard O'Hare, Frank Feely, Barry Owens and key architects of the city status bid are celebrating with celebratory pints by Christine McAuliffe of The Bank bar in Newry.

Picture: Darryl Moore

ward looking and confident of gaining city status, in January bought the name Newry City FC, being one of the top enemy black spots of the region, a model of urban and rural regeneration and inward investment.

Having recently celebrated 50 years of recalling aspects of local history the

Old Newry Society

IS DELIGHTED TO CONGRATULATE NEWRY DEMOCRAT ON ITS 25 YEARS OF REPORTING LOCAL NEWS!

In continuing our objectives we look forward to the coming Events, including

- "The Road to the Truce"** 19th November
- "Ghosts from Newry's Past"** 18th February
- "Newry's Scouting History"** 21st April followed with our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All above taking place in **Newry Arts Centre at 7:30pm**

Our Annual Dinner

Takes place in Bellinis on 19th March 2020 with a Talk on "The Wee Binnian Walkers"

KEEP AN EYE ON LOCAL PRESS FOR FULL DETAILS ON EACH EVENT!

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NEWRY CREDIT UNION LIMITED

Newry Credit Union would like to congratulate The Democrat on 25 Years of outstanding, dedicated reporting and work within the community

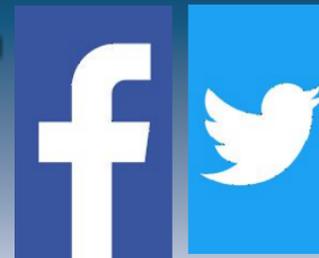
Congratulations and Best Wishes to the Newry Democrat on their 25th Anniversary!

JT CARPETS

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The Newry Democrat on Social media



AS well as catching all the local news, sports and features in your print edition each Tuesday of the Newry Democrat, you can also keep up to date with us through our social media channels.

You can find our Twitter profile at twitter.com/NewryDemo.

There you will be able to keep up with breaking news throughout the week, and a sneak peak at what is in our paper each week.

We are also on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NewryDemocrat/> where you'll be able to also stay in touch with us and the local community.

As well as the usual news and sports output, we'll also have the latest video available from the stories we are out and about covering in the local Newry area.

So be sure to give us a follow on Twitter, and a like on the Facebook page as we look to keep you updated with all the latest news throughout the week.

Do take the opportunity to message us, and drop the paper any ideas for things you think we should be covering or indeed your thoughts on our stories.

We would love to hear from you.

You can also find our latest stories on our website at www.newrydemocrat.com



NEWS



Council urged to spend a penny on "urgently needed" toilet refurbishment



Aidan holds Court as charity Quiz gets ready to pass £1 million mark



Appeal To Newry tyre retailers to ensure that used tyres disposed of properly



Run Santa Run' in aid of Southern Hospice



Multi-Disciplinary Teams extended to Newry and Mourne district



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BANBRIDGE

Unit 7 Brookfield Ind. Est. Scarva Rd
Tel: (028) 4062 2717

BALLYNAHINCH

45 Lisburn Road
Tel: (028) 9756 4636

A snap back in time with Noel Moan

A picture tells a thousand words!

Newry Democrat photographer Noel Moan has been the man behind the lens here at the Newry Democrat for the last 21 years.

Other photographers during the last 25 years included Ian Magill; Stoifan Loughran; Darryl Mooney; Liz Boyle and Billy McKinley.

We are also indebted to the many freelance photographers.

A special mention to Mark Pearce; Columba O'Hare; Philip Magowan and Brendan Monaghan to name but a few.

For Noel, the last 21 years has been an eventful journey caught on camera.

"The world of photography has changed dramatically during the last 21 years.

"My introduction to photography came one day when Michael Savage asked if I fancied taking a

few snaps.

"I liked the idea and the rest is history as they say.

"Over the years I have covered many significant events in the history of Down.

"My most memorable occasion was the Armagh footballers winning the All Ireland in 2003.

"I was fortunate enough to get to cover three All Ireland Finals but that day in 2002 was very special. Catching the raw emotion was something else.

"As a youngster I remember asking the soldiers if I could get a spin in their helicopter.

"Little did I know that one of my first assignments was getting to cover the demilitarisation of the Army base in Crossmaglen and other military outposts in Down and South Armagh.

"I have been fortunate enough to have met some celebs along the way.

"Brian Kennedy; X-Factor stars; Pat Jennings; Barry McGuigan; Michael Conlan; John Hume; Martin McGuinness; Bertie Ahern and Mary McAleese.

"I travelled with Rowan Hand to Dublin to meet and photograph Mary McAleese in Aras an Uachtarain.

"The great thing about being a photographer is that no two days are ever the same.

"You get the opportunity to meet some wonderful people.

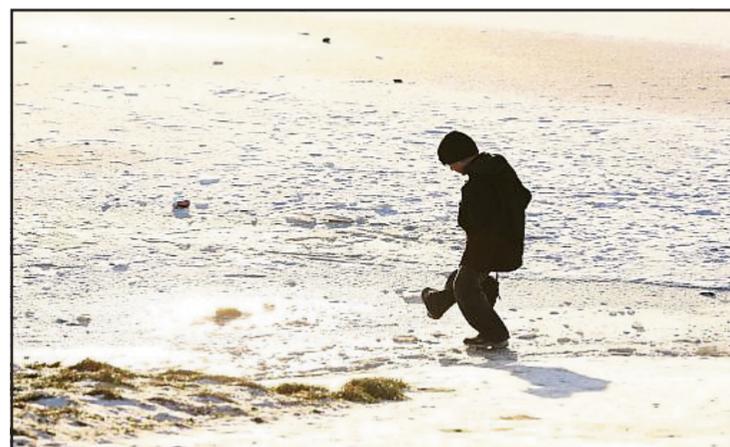
"Every assignment is different. With the camera you capture that moment which will last in history forever.

"Every picture has it's own story."



PLEASE be out there somewhere safe, was in the thoughts of the whole community in Kilkeel when the search went on for the Green family in Kilkeel. Picture Noel Moan.

Left - One of the military posts removed by air from South Armagh.



ICE BREAKER: this young lad checks the ice before stepping out onto the frozen Camlogh lake during the big freeze of 2010.



Sticky Fingers Artist Heather Fulton pictured with Louis Lambe from the Abbey Nursery who took part in the Sticky Fingers workshop I. Picture Noel Moan.



A fire in Monaghan Street didn't stop this passer by from lighting up.

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Best Wishes to the Newry Democrat celebrating 25 years in business!



THE final salute scene in Camlough at a Hunger Strike parade.

Sort out all your waste

Residents using local Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) must sort their waste

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has reviewed its Household Recycling Centre (HRC) entrance policies. It is now a condition of use that all waste brought to the sites is pre-sorted and placed into the correct containers for recycling. HRCs will no longer accept unsorted general waste for disposal and disposal of recyclable waste items into the general/ non-recyclable waste stream is also no longer permitted.

Council Chairperson, Councillor Charlie Casey said, "Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is currently recycling 51% its waste, this is an impressive 10% increase in just two years and whilst this is a tremendous achievement we are committed to a target recycling rate of 65% by 2030.

"Approximately 25% of the waste the Council processes is collected through its 10 HRCs so we must have them performing as effectively as possible. Unfortunately, some residents using the centres are not pre-sorting their waste for recycling. This means that valuable recyclable material is going to be lost. Recycling saves money and makes a positive contribution to the environment by saving energy and raw ma-

terials. The Council hopes this new step will reduce the amount of waste disposed by at least 1000t /year."

There are a wide range of materials that can be recycled for free at your local HRC. These include Greenwaste, Metal, Cardboard, plastic (eg garden furniture, kids toys), Wood, Paper, Glass bottles and jars, Domestic appliances (e.g. washing machine, cookers etc) Electrical goods (hair dryer, tv, iron etc), Fluorescent tubes and Batteries (car and household).

Residents using the centres are asked to sort all their waste at home into recyclable and non-recyclable materials. Having waste pre-sorted will make visits to the HRC easier and faster. On site, staff will be nearby to direct users to the correct recycling container.

Top tips

- Do not arrive with bins/bags/boxes of mixed waste – this will delay your time on site as you'll need to separate it out for recycling
- Only use the landfill skips for waste that can't be recycled elsewhere
- Don't be afraid to ask – we're here to help!

For more information please visit the Council website on <https://www.newrymournedown.org/hrc> or contact 0300 013 2233.



The floods in Monaghan Street left this young lady needing the help of this fire officer to reach dry ground.



Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Chairperson Councillor Charlie Casey (right) and Liam Dinsmore, the Council's Head of Waste Processing promote the sorting of recyclables at Newry Recycling Centre.

When using your Household Recycling Centre

Recycle Right

Make your visit easy with these simple steps:

- S **Sort** recyclable and non-recyclable items at home.
- O **Organise** your recyclables and waste in your vehicle.
- R **Re-use** please consider donating reusable items to charity before you visit us.
- T **Talk** to our staff if you need advice.

Disposal of recyclable items in waste skips is NO LONGER PERMITTED

Items that can be recycled include

cardboard	paper	books	wood & timber	hard plastics
mixed textiles & clothes	cooking oil	mattresses coming soon	car batteries	scrap metal
household metal packaging	mixed glass bottles & jars	garden waste	large appliances	batteries
small appliances	printer cartridges	fridges & freezers	mixed light bulbs	tvs & monitors

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Newry, Mourne and Down recycles

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 Editor



CHRIS BRENNAN
 Journalist



the Newry Democrat



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MARTIN MCGUIGAN
Journalist

*Rowan Hands
broadcaster and
journalist, who writes for
the Newry Democrat*

NEWRY DEMOCRAT
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SANTA RUN 2008
 OUT & ABOUT WITH THE GOHOLS AND GHOSTS
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 IN ASSOCIATION WITH Bonita

12 YEARS FOR A LIFE
 THE brother of murdered Carrigrohery man, Siobhán Laughlin, has been sentenced to 12 years for the murder of his brother as a gangster.

KELLYS Christmas Shop Now Open
 20% off Christmas Stock
 Incorporating a Mulberry Stove Event on Friday

NORTHERN IRELAND WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE NEWRY DEMOCRAT
 TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009
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Bonny Baby
 COMPETITION - WEEK 7
 DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN OUR BONNY BABY COMPETITION?
 SEE PAGES 20 & 21

WIN A YEAR'S FREE HAIRDRESSING

WIN A HOTEL BREAK

MURDER CHARGE
 AN 18-year-old man has been charged with the murder of Mark McCann and was due to appear at Newry Magistrates Court yesterday, Monday evening.

BUNGLING GUNMEN
 BUNGLING armed robbers who struck at a Newry bureau the change have been described as a "crazy act" by a member of staff who defied their orders to hand over money.

The Balmoral Getting Married?
 NEW Mid-week & Weekend Packages Available. ONE PRICE COVERS ALL!

NEWRY DEMOCRAT
 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008
 WE'RE ALL ABOUT YOU
 THIS IS 96 PAGES

Huge floods bring town to a standstill
 NEWRY was brought to a standstill on Friday when high tides in the town of Newry caused flooding in the town.

Young motorist killed in collision with lorry
 A young motorist killed in a collision with a lorry on the Newry bypass.

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Headliners from

NEWRY DEMOCRAT
 TUESDAY, 24 May, 2018
 Tel: (028) 3025 1250 INCORPORATING THE DOWN DEMOCRAT
 Newspaper for the local news in Newry, Down and south. 61.30 / €1.30

Warrenpoint In fine voice for Blues on the Bay

Newry Fels marks 90 years with gala concert

Murnin to be new council chairperson

EXCLUSIVE
 Cllr Mairéad Murnin will be the new Chairperson of Newry, Down and South Council. The Borough Council has elected Murnin to the position of Chairperson of the Council.

Buffon baby's life is saved by £4,000 Daisy Hill heart monitor

'I'LL MISS YOU EVERY DAY'
 Tributes to 'true gentleman' Karl Heaney

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Warrenpoint Feasibility study begins for community centre

Newry Family's fury over sentence

Restvor Tommy and Aoife help get Prädler's Green

HELP US GET JUSTICE FOR PAUL, MARY LOU
 Breege Quinn makes call on Sinn Fein President

NEWRY DEMOCRAT
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AUTUMN BREAKS FREE INSIDE YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE

ST. COLMAN'S FORMAL GLITZ AND GLAMOUR IN THE CITY

WIN FARE FREE FLIGHT RYAN AIR

BUSINESSES FEAR FOR FUTURE AS GIANTS TARGET CITY

SEATBELT SAVES STUDENT'S LIFE
 A NEWRY father says his boy is lucky to be alive being involved in a high-speed crash in Carrigrohery.

RAYMOND Thompson with his 15-year-old daughter in the wreckage of a car.

NEWRY DEMOCRAT
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Newry Barcroft residents protest against anti-social behaviour

Wall protests to stop... for now

Businesses want Executive back: New Chamber Chief

Local MP Cruppi...

WHO IS GOING TO HELP LITTLE SCARLETT?
 Mum's anger as daughter misses start of school due to EA red tag

EXCLUSIVE by Michael Scott
 THE Education Authority (EA) and 11 other schools in Newry have been accused of covering up the death of a 10-year-old girl.

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'WE WERE FRAMED'
 A WARRENPOINT man who was accused of murdering his mother says that a bungled police investigation has ruled out any possibility of the real killer ever being convicted.

EXCLUSIVE by Donal O'Reilly
 Newry Magistrates Court on Thursday heard what they expected to be a routine, routine appearance they were shocked to hear that all charges had been dropped.

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 A NEWRY woman has been convicted of three counts of blackmail which led to the death of a man's wife and child by trying to extort thousands from them.

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SRC launches new online Higher Education Admissions Portal for September

SOUTHERN Regional College is delighted to announce that it is launching its new online admissions portal for all full-time higher education courses for September 2020 entry on Tuesday 5th November 2019.

So what does this mean for you?

Well, this means that all current BTEC Level 3, A Level or mature learners will be able to submit their online application to Southern Regional College for any full-time higher education course (September 2020 entry) from 5th November 2019 onwards. SRC will be hosting a launch evening on the 5th November at all of its main campuses: Armagh Killylea Road, Banbridge, Lurgan, Newry or Portadown from 4pm – 8pm. Prospective students will be able to speak to highly experienced and enthusiastic lecturers to gain any further information required in advance of submitting their Higher Education course application. Staff will also be available on the evening to assist with the completion of the online applications. Brian Doran, Principal and Chief Executive at Southern Regional College said;

“We are delighted to announce the launch of our new Higher Education Applications Portal on 5th November. SRC has a wide range of Higher National and Foundation

Degree courses and we offer a wide range of pathways which include full-time, part-time and higher level apprenticeship. Studying at our College brings a wide range of advantages: our full-time fees are lower than the local universities; by living and studying at home you will not incur the same level of debt as a student studying at university; our class sizes are smaller than those at university and you will therefore obtain a greater level of support from our course teams. Coupled with this our higher education courses have been adjudged by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) to be of the highest standard.”

So if you are thinking of progressing to higher level study in September 2020, make SRC your first choice!

The College offers a wide range of university level courses - right here on your doorstep ranging from Foundation Degrees, HNCs, HNDs and Higher Level Apprenticeships - in areas such as Computing, Engineering, Interactive Multimedia, Accounting, Sport to Sciences to name but a few leading universities like Queens University, Ulster University, Liverpool John Moores and have just recently formed a working partnership with Open University.



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Miss Casey Webb, daughter of Mr Tom & Mrs Jean Webb, Tamnaghbane Road, Newry, graduated recently from Queen's University, Belfast with a First Class (Honours) Degree in Actuarial Science with Risk Management.

Casey, is a former pupil of St. Joseph's Primary School, Meigh, and the Sacred Heart Grammar School, Newry.

Boost for Balmoral as Ulster Bank announces significant new sponsorship deal

Ulster Bank has announced a new deal to continue its sponsorship of Northern Ireland's largest agricultural event, The Balmoral Show.

The announcement, which was made at Cloughbane Farm, one of Ulster Bank's leading agri-food customers, will see the partnership extended until 2022, with the Show continuing to be referred to as The Balmoral Show in partnership with Ulster Bank.

As principal sponsor of the event since 2009, Ulster Bank has raised The Balmoral Show's profile and helped it grow from strength to strength throughout the last decade.

Making the announcement, Ulster Bank's Head of NI, Mark Crimmins, said he was looking forward to continuing the bank's close and long-standing association with the Show.

"The Balmoral Show is one of Northern Ireland's leading events, both in terms of economic importance and popularity and we are proud to be so closely associated with the event. Renewing the sponsorship of the Balmoral Show underpins Ulster Bank's commitment to the local agri-food sector and we look forward to strengthening this relationship as

we move into the next phase of our sponsorship.

"Of course, these are challenging times for many farmers, and we see our sponsorship as further reassurance to our agri-customers that we are here to support them through the good times and the more difficult times. Such challenges only reinforce the significance of the Show to the wider industry as it provides a place for farmers and producers to meet, share experiences and seek the support they need for the year ahead."

Show organisers the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society were also in attendance at the event and welcomed the extension of the sponsorship agreement.

Alan Crowe, Chief Executive, RUAS said "The Balmoral Show has undergone many major and positive changes in the last 10 years and Ulster Bank has been a firm partner through that journey. We relocated the Show out of Belfast city to Balmoral Park in 2014 and reintroduced the 4 day format in 2017 with the addition of a Saturday to the schedule for the first time ever, allowing us to attract over 120,000 visitors throughout the 4 days and to attract a new audience to the Show.

Going forward our aim is to continue to grow and widen the Show's appeal, and to do so we rely increasingly on the support and strategic guidance from our principal sponsor, Ulster Bank."

Also at the event were members of the Guild of Agricultural Journalists who spent the morning touring Cloughbane Farm and hearing about the growth of the company and how this has been supported by Ulster Bank.

Mark continued, "Our activity at the Show over the last number of years has focused on positioning Ulster Bank as an ingredient in our customers' success so it's fitting that we have gathered at Cloughbane Farm today as a further extension of this pledge."

The 2020 Balmoral Show in partnership with Ulster Bank takes place from 13th -16th May. More information can be found at www.balmoralshow.co.uk. Please contact Ulster Bank's Senior Agricultural Manager Cormac McKervey if you wish to discuss your banking requirements for 2020: cormac.mckervery@ulsterbank.com or on 07766071008;

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Announcing the new sponsorship deal were Nigel Walsh, Director, Commercial Banking, Ulster Bank, Mark Crimmins, Head of Ulster Bank in Northern Ireland, Rhonda Geary, Operations Director at the RUAS, Alan Crowe, Chief Executive of the RUAS, and Billy Martin, President of the RUAS.



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If you have a story you think we should be covering here at the Newry Democrat, we would love to hear from you. We pride ourselves on being at the heart of the community here in the city and wider-afield locally. So if you have a story you'd like us to cover then get in touch with us at editor@newrydemocrat.com. Alternatively you can send us a message on our Twitter or Facebook social media pages, and we'll look into what it is that is important to you locally.



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Poorest families lose £2,250 per year

LONE parents and families with at least one disabled child are losing up to £2,250 per year, under new welfare reforms, according to new research published.

The research, published by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, looks at the impact of tax and social security reforms in Northern Ireland since their introduction in 2010 and tracks it through to everything planned until 2022.

It also analyses for the first time, the value of 'mitigation packages' agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive.

Chief commissioner Les Alamy warned the end of the measures will 'plunge households into crisis' from next April if they are not replaced by alternative aid.

The deal to ease the impact of welfare reform included a subsidy to the bedroom tax and is due to end on March 31st, 2020 - a date campaigners are describing as a cliff edge.

The report's authors, Landman Economics and Aubergine Ana-

lysis set out the impact of reforms on different income groups and family groups by age, gender and disability.

It finds the biggest annual average losses are in some of the poorest homes and 'especially dramatic' for lone parents who have lost around £2,250 and households with at least one disabled child who experience average losses of around £2,000 per year.

Households with three or more children experience average losses of around £2,575 per year.

The average losses for households with one child is £50.

Women are more badly affected than men because they are more likely to be receiving tax credits and other social security measures.

Mr Alamy said the research showed 'the broadest backs are not bearing the heaviest loads,' and the effect of this on families with more than two children has been devastating.

"We need a tax and social security system which provides

help where it is most needed - for those on low incomes," he said.

"The freezing of many social security benefits for four years and continuing universal credit to two children only, has had a devastating impact on claimants and their children.

"Adult and child poverty is set to rise.

"The research shows that the mitigations package including not applying the bedroom tax, and benefit cap for families has made a significant impact.

"If the mitigations are not replaced, we will plunge those households into a crisis next April.

"The right to an adequate standard of living is an important human right and that is not being met.

"The research provides a recommended package for renewed mitigations which is costed and evidence-based and builds on what we have now.

The full report will be available on the Commission's website www.nihrc.org.



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Newry 'Boy Racers' Tormenting Local Community: Kimmins

SINN Féin Councillor Liz Kimmins has said that the continued activities by "boy racers" in the Old Dublin Road locality was tormenting local residents.

The local representative confirmed that she had once again spoke to the PSNI about the issue and that need for it to be tackled.

"Local residents are tormented on a regular basis with the noise from the large numbers of cars that gather in this border area for "diffing" and other criminal anti social behaviour, including obstructing the road, disrupting other motorists who are trying to pass through safely".

The Sinn Féin elected representative con-

tinued, "I have on regular occasions met with representatives from the South Armagh PSNI and raised these issues as a matter of serious concern.

"The PSNI and they have confirmed they are co-operating with Garda in tackling this criminal activity and anyone found to be involved will be arrested and face court".

Concluding Councillor Kimmins said: "This serious anti social activity has to be challenged and those engaged in it need to face the full rigours of the law.

"We have to ensure the safety and well being of our communities and ultimately tackling this "boy racer" scourge will, I have no doubt, help save lives".

It's Happy Halloween from Surestart at Altnaveigh House



ARTS and Crafts and lots of Treats at Surestart Halloween Party LB4561

Chris Brennan

Warrenpoint Community Centre Group celebrate Halloween



FANCY DRESS WINNER Finn Manley Winner is presented with his prize by members of Warrenpoint Community Centre Group at their Halloween Disco. LB4566



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