

A decorative graphic on the left side of the header, consisting of a brown spiral that transitions into a purple and brown ribbon-like swirl.

st. patrick's festival

Downpatrick 9 - 17 March 2009

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

St Patrick's Cross-Community Carnival Parade

St Patrick's Day Entertainment with U105's
George Jones, Julian Simmons and special guests

Altan in Concert

Alt Pat - All Ages Rock Gig

St Patrick Themed Crafts for Kids

A Day Exploring the World of St Patrick

Children's Entertainment and much more...

As one of Ireland's most ancient and historic towns, Downpatrick plays a key part in its intriguing history. Known widely as St Patrick's town, and reputed burial site of the patron saint, St Patrick's Day Cross-Community celebrations hold an extra special significance for the County town.

Down District Council is proud to present a nine day programme of events from Monday 9 March to Tuesday 17 March culminating in a spectacular display of sound and colour as the St Patrick's Cross-Community Carnival Parade makes its way through the streets of Downpatrick.

Events throughout the festival will offer opportunities to learn more about the history of St Patrick, celebrate his life, explore the fabulous County Down countryside, and enjoy a range of concerts, exhibitions, sporting and family events. With almost 50 events to choose from, the St Patrick's Festival has something for everyone!



THROUGHOUT MARCH

CELEBRATING ST PATRICK

An exhibition of photographs and memorabilia relating to a pageant held at Audleystown in 1932 to commemorate the 1500th anniversary of St Patrick's arrival in Saul.

TIME Monday - Friday 10.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday & Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm
St Patrick's Day 10.00am - 6.00pm

VENUE Down County Museum,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk



SATURDAY 7 MARCH

COLUM SANDS & FRIENDS

Come along for an evening of traditional Irish folk music and storytelling. Organised by Newcastle Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.

TIME 8.00pm - 11.00pm

VENUE The Lodge / Dún Eigse, Castlewelan

ADMISSION £8 (concessions available)

CONTACT Nicholas McCrickard

078 0267 5685

MONDAY 9 MARCH

THE ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL LECTURE

A lecture on the history of Down Cathedral by cathedral expert and author Fred Rankin. Organised by Lecale Historical Society.



TIME 7.30pm

VENUE Down Cathedral, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Berkley Farr 028 4483 0442

TUESDAY 10 MARCH

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION BRIDGE NIGHT

Duplicate pairs Bridge competition for players of all skill levels. Organised by St Brigid's Primary School Parents' Association.

TIME 7.30pm

VENUE St Brigid's Primary School, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £5

CONTACT Michael Starkey 028 4461 2509

WEDNESDAY 11 - TUESDAY 17 MARCH

SIOPADÓIREACHT TRÍ MHEÁN NA GAELIGE (SHOPPING THROUGH THE IRISH LANGUAGE)

The shops taking part will dress their windows with labels and signage in Irish and carry out sales in basic Irish. Organised by Lecale Gaelic Society.

TIME Normal Shopping Hours

VENUE Shops in Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Joyce Gibson 028 4483 8681



THURSDAY 12 MARCH & FRIDAY 13 MARCH

CONCERT OF CHORAL & INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

An orchestra, concert band, choirs, instrumental groups and soloists present a gala evening of music, performed by the students of Down High School. Organised by Down High School.

TIME 7.45pm

VENUE The Great Hall,
Downshire Estate, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £5 (concessions £3)

CONTACT Bertie Coffey 028 4461 2103

FRIDAY 13 MARCH

A DAY EXPLORING THE WORLD OF ST PATRICK

Two talks about archaeological sites associated with St Donard and the 'Slieve' (Sliabh) place names of the Mourne Mountains, followed by lunch and a bus trip to Maghera and Ballaghanery Churches, near Newcastle.

TIME 10.15am - 5.00pm

VENUE Down County Museum,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION £15 (includes 2 morning talks, lunch and a bus trip)

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk



FRIDAY 13 MARCH

ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL TABLE QUIZ

A festival table quiz organised by Dunmore Rural Association.

TIME 8.00pm

VENUE Dunmore Orange Hall

ADMISSION £2

CONTACT 028 4062 2459

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION QUIZ

Organised by St Brigid's Primary School Parents' Association.

TIME 9.00pm

VENUE Denvir's Hotel, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £5

CONTACT Michael Starkey 028 4461 2509

SATURDAY 14 MARCH

ART - OFF THE RAILS

Art - Off the Rails is a vibrant new idea for Downpatrick, selling art from railings at the front of The Saint Patrick Centre. Everyone and anyone is welcome to show and/or sell work of any kind*. The only rule is that the work is affordable and no piece will cost more than £150. If you would like to take part, come along with your work at 9.30am. To accompany Art - Off the Rails, Down Arts Forum has invited a drawing group called 'Draw In' to draw the event. Members of the public are encouraged to come along with their sketch books and pencils and join in! * Artwork displayed is at the artist's own risk.

TIME 9.30am - 5.00pm

VENUE The Saint Patrick Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Down Arts Centre
028 4461 0747





ALT PAT - ALL AGES ROCK GIG

Bring this year's Paddy's Day in with something a bit different. Take some of the best bands from around the country and party! Sinocence, Stone Crow, Circadian, Niyah Sky, 99miles, Outhouse to name but a few of the bands that will be performing at this all day, all ages event. Bring your attitude, earplugs, and your best band tee-shirt and tell your mum you won't be home for dinner!

TIME 12.30pm - 11.00pm

VENUE Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £5

CONTACT Down Arts Centre
028 4461 0747

ST PATRICK THEMED CRAFTS FOR KIDS

St Patrick themed crafts and balloon modelling to help the family get ready for St Patrick's Day.

TIME 2.00pm - 5.00pm

VENUE Down County Museum,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION £3

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk

LOUGHINISLAND IRISH NIGHT

A family evening of music, song, dance and storytelling from 7.30pm to 9.30pm, followed by an adult ceili from 10.00pm until late with dancing to Oriel Ceili Band, Armagh. Everybody welcome. Organised by Loughinisland GAA Cultural Committee.

TIME 7.30pm

VENUE Loughinisland GAA Club,
Loughinisland

ADMISSION £5

CONTACT Patsy Toman 028 4481 1548



9 - 17 March 2009

SUNDAY 15 MARCH

JIMMY'S 10K ROAD RACE

A 10km road race on foot through Downpatrick and the surrounding countryside, incorporating a 2 x 3 mile relay race for teams of two runners, and a walk. Organised by East Down Athletic Club.

TIME 12.00noon

VENUE Down Leisure Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Entry fee £10 pp/relay team

CONTACT Joe Quinn 028 4461 4235 /
079 3321 4894



ST PATRICK THEMED GUIDED WALK OF THE HILL OF DOWN

A guided walk taking in local connections with St Patrick and the history of the Hill of Down, starting at the Museum entrance.

TIME 2.00pm

VENUE Down County Museum,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION £3 (booking advisable)

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk

STORIES OF ST PATRICK TOLD IN IRISH

Famous and lesser known stories about St Patrick and his connections with County Down, told in Irish for beginners and experts alike. Organised by Down District Council in conjunction with Lecale Gaelic Society.

TIME 3.30pm

VENUE Down County Museum,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk



MUSICAL EVENING OF SONG & DANCE

An evening of music, dance and fine cuisine to celebrate St Patrick's Day and showcase local culture and traditions. Organised by Downpatrick Twinning Partnership.

TIME 8.30pm

VENUE The Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle

ADMISSION £25

(includes dinner and music)

CONTACT John Noble 077 1156 1433

SETS CEILI

Come along to take part or just enjoy the craic of traditional Irish set dancing. Ashley Ray will call the sets, and will also be on hand from 7.00pm to help beginners with basic steps. Organised by Denvir's Hotel in conjunction with Down District Council.

TIME 7.30pm - 10.00pm

VENUE Denvir's Hotel

ADMISSION £3

CONTACT Patricia O'Neill 028 4461 2012 / Ashley Ray 077 3672 7001

MONDAY 16 MARCH

BRICFEASTA SLÁINTIÚIL (HEALTHY BREAKFAST FOR PARENTS AND TODDLERS IN THE IRISH LANGUAGE)

Parents and toddlers will be offered a healthy breakfast, and then have a basic Irish lesson through structured play, rhyme and simple songs. Organised by Lecale Gaelic Society.

TIME 9.30am - 10.30am

VENUE St Michael's Parish Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Joyce Gibson 028 4483 8681

CONCERT WITH THE CARRICKMANNON TRADITIONAL GROUP

A St Patrick's Eve concert with young traditional Irish musicians and singers, all of whom reside in the Carrickmannon/Darragh Cross area, with vocals by Bronagh Murray. Organised by the SEELB Library Service and Carrickmannon Traditional Group.

TIME 8.00pm

VENUE Downpatrick Library, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free (booking essential)

CONTACT Valerie McMullan 028 4461 2895



MONDAY 16 MARCH

OÍCHE STOBHAIGH (IRISH STEW NIGHT)

Participants will enjoy a bowl of stew, a glass of wine, and musical entertainment. Organised by Lecale Gaelic Society.

TIME 8.00pm - 10.00pm

VENUE St Michael's Parish Centre,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION £5

CONTACT Joyce Gibson 028 4483 8681

STEW, MUSIC & YARNS AT THE LODGE

The best of traditional and folk music, and storytelling from the Bards. A concert for all at Castlewellan's new cultural venue. Organised by Newcastle Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.

TIME 8.00pm - 11.00pm

VENUE The Lodge/Dún Eigse,
Castlewellan

ADMISSION £8 (concessions available)

CONTACT Nicholas McCrickard
078 0267 5685



TUESDAY 17 MARCH

ST PATRICK'S DAY

PILGRIMAGE WALK TO DOWN CATHEDRAL

A walk organised by the Church of Ireland from St Patrick's Church, Saul, to Down Cathedral, Downpatrick. Buses to Saul Church will depart from The Mall approaching Down Cathedral from 8.30am to 9.15am for the Ecumenical Service at 9.30am (see event below for details) and the walk at 10.30am.

TIME 8.30am - 9.15am buses depart, 10.30am walk begins.

VENUE St Patrick's Church, Saul

CONTACT Joy Wilkinson 028 4461 4922



ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Organised by the Church of Ireland.

TIME 9.30am

VENUE St Patrick's Church, Saul

CONTACT The Very Rev Henry Hull
028 4461 3101



TUESDAY 17 MARCH

CELEBRATION OF ST PATRICK

Visit the exhibition, IMAX presentation, café and shop at The Saint Patrick Centre. After the cross-community carnival parade, traditional music will be provided in the Centre from 4.00pm to 5.00pm by Voices of Lecale. Organised by The Saint Patrick Centre.

TIME 9.30am - 7.00pm

Last admission to the exhibition 5.30pm

VENUE The Saint Patrick Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free to Centre. Exhibition, Adult £4.95, Child £2.55, Family £11.75

CONTACT 028 4461 9000

MASS IN IRISH

Mass celebrated in Irish, followed by presentation of Shamrock to local Scout group. Organised by the Parish of Downpatrick.

TIME 10.00am

VENUE St Patrick's Church, St Patrick's Avenue, Downpatrick

ST PATRICK'S DAY EVENTS AT DOWN ARTS CENTRE

From old folk favourites to traditional tunes, call into Down Arts Centre to hear live music from The Sheugh Band. Traditional craft demonstrations including wood-carving, basket-making and St Brigid's crosses will also take place, while kids can come along and enjoy the antics of Herbie the Clown and friends. Whether you have an hour to pass, or just ten minutes, drop in anytime and soak up the atmosphere!

TIME 10.00am - 5.00pm

VENUE Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Down Arts Centre
028 4461 0747

ST PATRICK'S DAY WALK

Join us on our annual walk through St Patrick's country. Organised jointly by Down District Council and the Lecale Ramblers, the route includes a mixture of quiet country roads and green lanes. A wee dram of whiskey (or tea/coffee) is provided at a secret location along the route!

TIME Registration between 10.00am and 10.30am. Walk starts at 10.30am.

VENUE Castleward

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Downpatrick Tourist Information Centre 028 4461 2233
downpatrick.tic@downdc.gov.uk



ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS AT DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

One of the highlights of St Patrick's Day, a great day of family entertainment, including circus acts, outdoor entertainment, St Patrick treasure hunt, music and dancing.

TIME 10.00am - 6.00pm

VENUE Down County Museum,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk



SHAMROCK STEAM TRAINS



Let the steam train take the strain - hop on at Inch Abbey Station to Downpatrick town to avoid the town centre. Parking on first-come, first-served basis. Alternatively, after celebrating the patron saint's day, take the train to see the best views of Down Cathedral, the grave of St Patrick, or visit the spectacular ruins of the 12th century Inch Abbey. First and last train will be heritage diesel, all other trains steam.

TIME 11.00am - 5.00pm, at approximately 40 min intervals (see timetable online at www.downrail.co.uk for specific train times)

VENUE Downpatrick & County Down Railway, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £5 Adult return, £4 Child/
Senior Citizen return, Free Children under 3 years

CONTACT Downpatrick and County Down Railway 028 4461 5779



9 - 17 March 2009

TUESDAY 17 MARCH

INTERDENOMINATIONAL FESTIVAL SERVICE

Preacher: Professor Derick Bingham.
Organised by the Church of Ireland
Diocese of Down & Dromore.

TIME 11.45am

VENUE Down Cathedral, Downpatrick

CONTACT Joy Wilkinson 028 4461 4922

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT ST PATRICK'S GRAVE

Annual wreath laying ceremony at St
Patrick's Grave. Organised by the Church
of Ireland Diocese of Down & Dromore.

TIME 1.00pm

VENUE St Patrick's Grave,
Down Cathedral, Downpatrick

CONTACT Joy Wilkinson 028 4461 4922



ST PATRICK'S DAY ENTERTAINMENT

There will be entertainment galore in
St Patrick's Square, and leading the
celebrations will be U105's George Jones
and Julian Simmons along with a range of
special guests marking the day in style with
music, fun, games, craic and laughter geared
towards creating that St Patrick's Day feeling!

TIME 12.00noon - 5.00pm

VENUE St Patrick's Square, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Downpatrick Tourist
Information Centre 028 4461 2233



FRIENDLY FACE PAINTING

TIME 1.00pm - 4.00pm

VENUE St Patrick's Square, Downpatrick



HISTORICAL COACH TOUR - THE LIFE & TIMES OF ST PATRICK

(Subject To Sufficient Numbers)

Sit back and enjoy an alternative to St Patrick's Parade with a 2½ hour coach tour exploring the story of St Patrick and his life and times led by local historian Albert Colmer. Among the sites to be visited, depending on weather conditions, are St Patrick's Grave, Down Cathedral, St Patrick's RC Church, Mound of Down, Struell Wells and Saul Churches. As some walking is envisaged sensible walking shoes are recommended. Tea/coffee will be served en route. Organised by Down District Council.

TIME 1.30pm - 4.00pm approximately

VENUE Departs from the front entrance of Down County Museum, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £1, tickets can be purchased from Downpatrick Tourist Information Centre, Downpatrick.

CONTACT 028 4461 2233

VINTAGE VEHICLE CAVALCADE & STATIC DISPLAY

Organised by Downe Old Car Club, the cavalcade will assemble prior to 2.00pm at the car park, Down District Council Offices, 24 Strangford Road, Downpatrick, and then proceed at 2.15pm along Strangford Road, New Bridge Street, Church Street, Saul Way, Scotch Street, Fountain Street, John Street, Irish Street and Market Street to the car park at Down Leisure Centre for a static display. Suitable vehicles registered before 31 December 1988 are welcome to take part.

TIME 2.15pm

VENUE Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Eugene Morgan to enter a vehicle
028 4483 0516 or visit www.aovc.co.uk



TUESDAY 17 MARCH

ST PATRICK'S DAY CROSS-COMMUNITY CARNIVAL PARADE

This cross-community event, the centre-piece of the festival, will be a spectacular cavalcade of floats, bands, people in fancy dress and lots of attractions! Parade theme: 'The Sun, the Moon and the Stars'. The parade will assemble on the Ardglass Road at 1.00pm and depart at 2.30pm for the town centre where it will arrive at approximately 2.50pm. Parade route: Ardglass Road, Edward Street, John Street, Irish Street and Market Street. The closing date for parade entries is Friday 27 February 2009. Organised by Down District Council.

TIME 2.30pm

VENUE Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Down District Council's
Community Relations & Development
Section 078 0383 2508

VOICES OF LECALÉ: SONGS FOR ST PATRICK

Songs from County Down and other places to celebrate St Patrick's Day - join in with the chorus and raise the rafters for Paddy! Organised by The Saint Patrick Centre.

TIME 4.00pm - 5.00pm

VENUE The Saint Patrick Centre,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Laura Plummer 028 4461 9630

DOWNTOWN RADIO LIVE BROADCAST FROM DENVIR'S HOTEL

To celebrate St Patrick's Day, Downtown Radio's Johnny Hero will be broadcasting his show live from Denvir's Hotel.

TIME 4.00pm - 6.00pm

VENUE Denvir's Hotel, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Patricia O'Neill 028 4461 2012

ST PATRICK'S DAY FOLK MUSIC

Live Irish and Country Folk music.

TIME 4.00pm - 7.00pm

VENUE The Cuan Licenced Guest Inn,
Strangford

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Damien O'Hare 028 4488 1222



ALTAN LIVE IN CONCERT



Altan's exquisitely produced award-winning recordings range from the most sensitive and touching old Irish songs to hard hitting reels and jigs. Heartwarming, dynamic live performances, have seen Altan move audiences from Donegal to Tokyo to Seattle. Throughout, there has been an unwavering commitment to bring the beauty of traditional music, particularly

that of the Donegal fiddlers and singers, to contemporary audiences in a way that brings out every quality and destroys none. Presented by David Hull Promotions.

TIME 8.00pm

VENUE Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION £15

CONTACT Down Arts Centre 028 4461 0747

MUSICAL EVENING OF SONG & DANCE

An evening of music, dance and fine cuisine to celebrate St Patrick's Day and showcase local culture and traditions. Organised by Downpatrick Twinning Partnership.

TIME 8.30pm

VENUE Downpatrick Cricket Club

ADMISSION £25

(includes dinner and music)

CONTACT John Noble 077 1156 1433



OTHER ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY 16 JANUARY - SUNDAY 22 MARCH

FLAGS AND BANNERS

A display of some of the most significant and decorative flags and banners in the Museum's collection.

TIME Monday - Friday 10.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday & Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm
St Patrick's Day, 10.00am - 6.00pm

VENUE Down County Museum, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Mike King 028 4461 5218
michael.king@downdc.gov.uk

THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY - SATURDAY 28 MARCH

BEVERLY CLELAND

Art without drawing is like a body without a mind, and life without a breath. It would seem we automatically assume textiles fall into the realm of domestic craft. It is Cleland's intention to challenge this assumption. By using thread as a drawing tool Cleland blurs the boundaries between fine and applied art. Art can only draw breath when the observer observes. Through observation Cleland's work becomes alive and evokes a sense of personal belonging.

TIME 10.00am - 4.30pm

VENUE Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Down Arts Centre
028 4461 0747

MONDAY 9 MARCH - TUESDAY 17 MARCH

DIZZYLANDS FUNFAIR

Organised by Dizzylands Funfair

TIME Monday 9 - Friday 13 March
7.00pm - 10.30pm

Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 March
2.00pm - 5.00pm & 7.00pm - 10.30pm

Monday 16 March 7.00pm - 10.30pm

St Patrick's Day 12.00noon - 10.30pm

VENUE Car Park, Dunleath Park, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Amanda Goss 077 2187 8448

INDIVIDUAL SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP

Organised by St Michael's Snooker Club

TIME 7.30pm - 10.30pm

VENUE St Michael's Snooker Club,
Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Thomas Burns 028 4461 3519

THURSDAY 12 MARCH - SATURDAY 2 MAY

'IMPASSE INVOLUTION EMERGENCY' BY GERALYN MULQUEEN

This abstract collection reflects GERALYN's personal journey over several years.

GERALYN uses colour spontaneously in the emotional translation and captures the essence of reflection and emergence uniquely felt by the individual. The pieces are vital and honest always allowing for movement and growth.

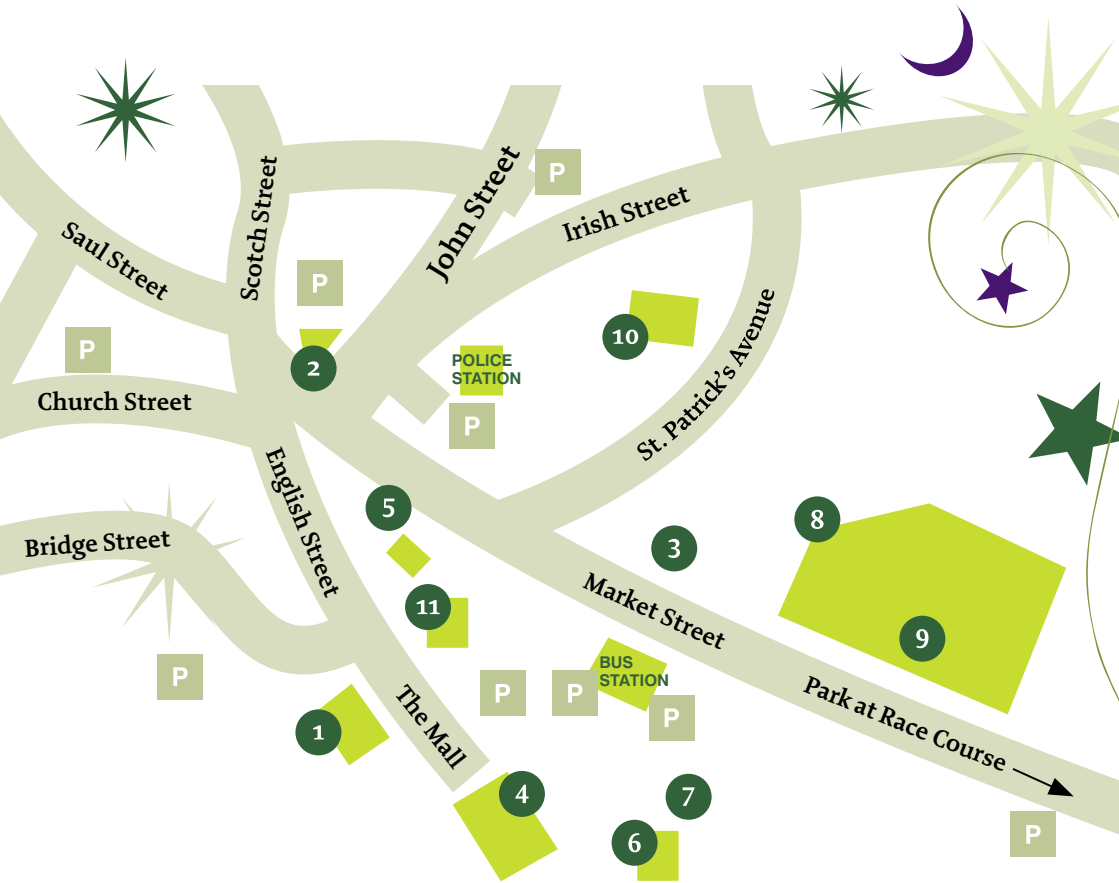
TIME Monday to Friday 10.00am - 4.30pm,
Saturday 9.00am - 4.30pm

VENUE Down Arts Centre, Downpatrick

ADMISSION Free

CONTACT Down Arts Centre 028 4461 0747





- 1 Down County Museum
- 2 Down Arts Centre
- 3 Disabled Parking and Viewing Area, South Eastern Regional College
- 4 Down Cathedral & St Patrick's Grave
- 5 Festival Stage, St Patrick's Square
- 6 Downpatrick & County Down Railway

- 7 Finish Area for Parade
- 8 Down Leisure Centre
- 9 Dizzylands Funfair
- 10 St Patrick's Church
- 11 The Saint Patrick Centre & Downpatrick Tourist Information Centre



Tel: 028 4461 2233

For further information and details about accommodation contact the Festival Office, Downpatrick Tourist Information Centre, 53a Market Street, Downpatrick, BT30 6LZ or view details online

www.st-patricksdayfestival.com

The information in this programme is correct at the time of going to print, however it may be subject to change.

Down District Council would like to acknowledge the funding received towards the festival from the Community Relations Unit, OFMDFM