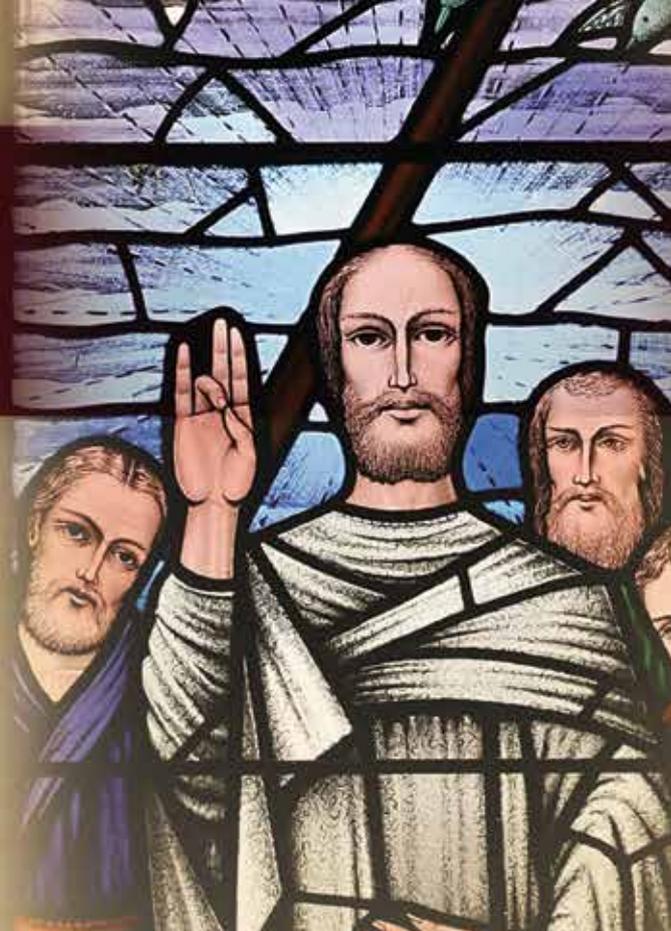


# COLUMBANUS 1400 FESTIVAL

COMMEMORATING THE  
1400<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DEATH OF COLUMBANUS

BANGOR, CO. DOWN  
20<sup>TH</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2015



## Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November

### JOURNEY OF A SINGLEDAY III CONCERT

Bangor Abbey 8pm.  
Tickets only £10

## Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November

### TALKS

St Columbanus, Ballyholme  
10am & 11:30am and St Comgall's  
(Brunswick Rd) Talks, 2pm & 3:30pm  
& Story Telling Sessions 2:30pm.  
Free

### SONGS OF THE SCRIBE CONCERT

First Bangor Presbyterian Church  
7:30pm.  
Tickets only £10

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

### TO FIND A HEATHEN PLACE AND SOUND A BELL

The story of Columbanus in  
words and music  
Bangor Abbey 3:30pm  
Tickets only £10

### A UNITED CELEBRATION

Ecumenical service,  
Bangor Abbey 6:30pm

## INFO

[friendsofcolumbanusbangor.co.uk](http://friendsofcolumbanusbangor.co.uk)  
[visitardsandnorthdown.com](http://visitardsandnorthdown.com)  
T: 028 9127 0069

## TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

### Mace Shop,

*Brunswick Road, Bangor*

### Bangor Visitor Information Centre,

*Quay Street, Bangor*

### Ards Visitor Information Centre,

*Regent Street, Newtownards*

### North Down Museum,

*Castle Park, Bangor*

**Online:** [ticketsource.co.uk](http://ticketsource.co.uk) / [visitstrangfordlough](http://visitstrangfordlough)

(N.B. booking fee applies online)



Download Our  
Christian Heritage Trail  
App From



Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

## 3.30PM - TO FIND A HEATHEN PLACE AND SOUND A BELL

### Bangor Abbey

To Find a Heathen Place and sound a Bell is a haunting weave of voices and music. It tells the story of two of the early saints or founders of the Church in Ireland. Both of the men in the story lived for a time in the Monastery of Bangor under the rule of its founder Comgall.

The first, Fiachra, went from Bangor to found a Monastery in what is now County Carlow. He returned to Bangor to be with Comgall at his death and ministered to him on his deathbed. The second was Columban or Columbanus. After several years in Bangor Columbanus set off in with twelve followers and travelled across Europe. A scholar, a converter of pagans, a denouncer of bishops and kings, he was responsible for the establishment of three great monasteries in France and another in Bobbio in Northern Italy, where he finally died in 615. The sermons and letters which he left are among the earliest records of the Celtic Church.

The story is told in original prose and verse with music. The writers are Kerry Hardie, one of Ireland's leading poets who herself grew up in Bangor, and Olivia O'Leary, distinguished writer and commentator. The music is by David Power.



The voices include Alan Counihan, Olivia O'Leary and Kenneth Irvine and the musicians are David Power and Ciaran Somers. Direction is by Sean Hardie.

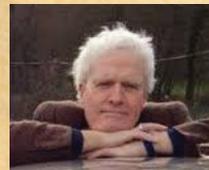
Admission £10

### Bangor Abbey

## 6.30PM - A UNITED CELEBRATION

The Festival reaches a climax as Churches of Bangor come together in the historic Bangor Abbey to celebrate the life and legacy of Columbanus in an Act of Worship and Thanksgiving.

The preacher will be The Rt. Rev. the Lord Eames OM, former Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland who commenced his Ministry as Curate of Bangor Parish in 1963. The ever popular Bangor Ladies Choir will also take part in the Service.



Info: [friendsofcolumbanusbangor.co.uk](http://friendsofcolumbanusbangor.co.uk)  
[visitardsandnorthdown.com](http://visitardsandnorthdown.com)

Tickets: Mace Shop,  
21-23 Brunswick Road, Bangor  
028 9145 5530

Bangor Visitor Information Centre,  
Quay Street, Bangor  
028 9127 0069

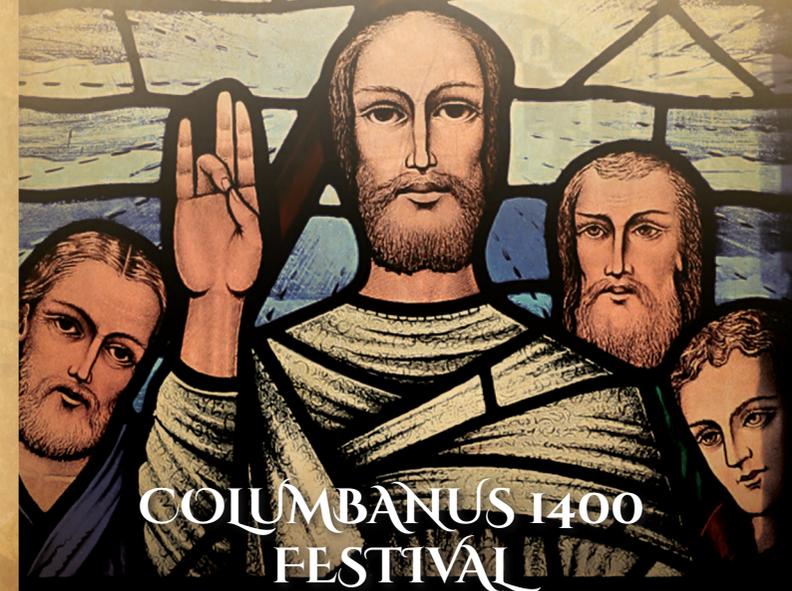
Ards Visitor Information Centre,  
Regent Street, Newtownards  
028 9182 6846

North Down Museum,  
Town Hall, Bangor  
028 9127 1200

Online: [ticketsource.co.uk/visitstrangfordlough](http://ticketsource.co.uk/visitstrangfordlough)  
(N.B. booking fee applies)



# Columbanus 1400



## COLUMBANUS 1400 FESTIVAL

Commemorating the 1400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the death of Columbanus

BANGOR, CO. DOWN  
20<sup>TH</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2015

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November

## NORTH DOWN MUSEUM DEMONSTRATIONS

The Museum will be hosting three demonstrations of techniques used in the time of Columbanus. Holger Lonze will be demonstrating the techniques of bronze casting and just how the famous Bangor Bell was created. The museum's resident "monk", Tom Boal, will be on hand to tell of a day in the life of a monk and demonstrate the art of Calligraphy. Bruce Crawford will be creating a coracle, the wood and skin crafted vessels used in the time of Columbanus for short river journeys.

**ENTRY FREE**

For information and times T: 028 9127 1200  
northdownmuseum.com

## 7.30PM - SONGS OF THE SCRIBE

*First Bangor Presbyterian Church*

In *Songs of the Scribe*, singer and composer, Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin, delves deep into the history of our monastic tradition to dramatic effect. Inspired by ancient lyrics from the scribes and hermit poets of early Ireland and set to music in the traditional style for voice, harp, fiddles and viola, a world of woods, water and birdsong, lamentation, divine and mystical incantation is invoked. Many of these early jewels are the result of a collaborative work with poets Seamus Heaney and Ciaran Carson. Also included will be new settings of compositions by Columbanus - 'The Rowing Song' and 'The Good Rule at Bangor' and original medieval compositions composed by Irish monks in the St Gallen monastery in Switzerland.

Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin from Co Armagh is one of Ireland's finest traditional singers. Recipient of many awards, she has been traditional singer in residence in Queen's University for many years, is an author and prolific recording artist who has unearthed many lyric poems from early Ireland and set them to music. Seamus Heaney spoke of her 'Beauty of singing – sweetness, sureness and clarity of voice – a totally absorbing experience'

Sylvia Crawford from Co Armagh is one of the few exponents of the (wire strung) early Irish harp in Ireland. A multi instrumentalist, she teaches harp at the annual Historical Harp Society of Ireland school in Kilkenny and has performed widely throughout Ireland and Brittany.

Darren Magee is a traditional and choral musician, conductor and composer from County Down. A traditional fiddle player and organist, he has toured nationally and internationally as a performer.

**Admission £10**

**Tickets for all ticketed events available from:**

Mace Shop, Brunswick Road, Bangor 028 9145 5530

Bangor Visitor Information Centre 028 9127 0069

Ards Visitor Information Centre 028 9182 6846

North Down Museum 028 9127 1200

ticketsource.co.uk/visitsrangfordlough (N.B. booking fee applies)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November

## 8PM - THE JOURNEY OF A SINGLE DAY III

*Bangor Abbey*

An evening of music, song and storytelling with

- ARDS COMHALTAS  
CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
- DAVID LENNON
- THE SMYTH SISTERS
- LEN GRAHAM
- JACK LYNCH
- LAURA HUGHES

*and other guests*

Following on sell-out concerts for the Columbanus celebrations in 2013 and 2014 Ards CCE return with their exciting blend of traditional Irish music, song and dance. Recent appearances have included performances in the Basilica of San Colombano at Bobbio in Italy and for the Prince of Wales at Hillsborough Castle.



Len Graham is one of Ireland's best known traditional singers who has gained an international reputation, not only for his inimitable singing style, but also for the breadth of his knowledge of Irish folk music. He was the inaugural recipient of the TG4 (Irish language and culture television channel) National Music Award for Traditional Singer of the Year. His rich recording history spans over thirty years, with more than twenty highly acclaimed albums to his credit.

Dublin-born Jack Lynch is a storyteller rooted in the scéalaf tradition as explored by Eamon Kelly and John Campbell, having shared a stage with both. He has experience in schools, libraries and prisons. He works regularly in the National Museum of Ireland and in psychiatric hospitals. He has appeared at festivals across Europe, North America and in the Middle East. Do not be surprised if the odd Irish Saint manages to creep into his stories!

**Admission £10**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November

## TALKS AND STORYTELLING SESSIONS

*St. Columbanus' Parish Church, Ballyholme*

10AM - IMMO WARNTJES

Columbanus' Clash of Cultures on the Continent

Immo is Lecturer in Irish Medieval History at Queen's University, Belfast. He has been a very popular speaker at previous Columbanus celebrations in Bangor.

11.30AM - BARRY SLOAN

When the Saints go Marching – On the Trail of Saint Columbanus

Barry Sloan is a Methodist Minister from Northern Ireland who has for many years ministered in Germany. In 2012 he hitch-hiked from Bangor to Bobbio in the steps of Columbanus. Today he launches the story of that journey which he describes as the tale of a 6th century saint and a 21st century sinner. The book is funny, thought-provoking, informative, inspiring and challenging - without being preachy.

*St. Comgall's Parish Centre, Brunswick Road, Bangor*

2PM - DAMIAN BRACKEN

Senior Lecturer in History in University College, Cork, his research has focused on Hiberno-Latin literature, especially on the works of St. Columbanus, who he likes to emphasise was the earliest Irish writer to leave an identifiable corpus of writings and the first to explore Irish identity.

3.30PM - SEAN MCDONAGH

Colomban and God's Creation - Having served for many years as a Coloman Father in the Phillipines, Sean became passionate on the subject of the imperative to care for the planet. He says that, 'The issue for church is the carrying capacity of the world'. He is that rare category of Christian, a 'geologian', following in the footsteps of St. Francis.

2.30PM - STORY AND SONG FOR YOUNGSTERS

LEN GRAHAM and JACK LYNCH have been performing to young audiences for many years. This afternoon they present a programme of story and song specially designed for the young of the Borough. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

**ADMISSION TO TALKS AND TO STORY AND SONG IS FREE**