

## DUNGIVEN

# Gelvin Historical Society to launch their third publication

Gelvin Historical Society is pleased to announce the launch of their third publication, *The GELVIN TIMES—a journey of discovery, having published Gelvin the Home Place in 2012 and Do You Mind the Time? in 2017.*

This 72 page magazine contains local news items from 2018 while the bulk of the content recounts historical news items, many from the 1800s, which must be of interest to everyone, especially to those in the wider Roe Valley/Gelvin area.

Items relating to landlords, the Limavady and Dungiven Railway, cock-fighting, fatalities, sport, the weather, hiring-fairs, church matters and much, much more are included and provide interesting reading. Do not be surprised if you find an ancestor getting a mention. A gallery of photographs is also included.

The following snippet is from an April 1836 news item recorded in the magazine.

REVENUE POLICE — FATAL CONFLICT— A most unfortunate occurrence took place

near one of the police stations of Newtownlimavady, on Friday last. At the village of Carne, within three miles of Dungiven, a revenue police officer and his party made a seizure of some.....

This attractive, full colour magazine is a perfect match for the society's earlier publications and will make a most appealing and unique gift for Gelvin and Roe Valley exiles around the world.

The launch will take place at 12 noon on Saturday 16 March 2019 in the library, Main

Street, Dungiven and everyone is invited to come along. Refreshments will be served.

The magazine, priced at £5, will be on sale from the week commencing 18th March in the usual outlets in Dungiven, Drumsurn, Limavady, Feeny, Gortnaghey, Burnfoot and Garvagh. Further details and copies can be had by telephoning 028 77742377 or

07593083956.

The Society is grateful to Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (Culture, Arts and Heritage Grants Scheme) and to The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland for their financial assistance with the publication.



## NEWSBRIEFS

## Glenshane House, Dungiven

Digital Computer Course (Browse Internet, Email, Shop Online, Stay Safe Online, Use Your Camera, Download Apps) starting on Wednesday, 20th March (either day or evening available) 6 weeks. Fee £25  
Internet Safety Course will be held on Monday 25th March 10am-12.30pm. Fee £10.  
Learn how to Browse the internet safely, Spam Emails, Anti Virus Software, Scammers & Hacks, Privacy & Safety Settings.

To book your place telephone Mary on 028 777 42494.

**DERRY POST**  
**NEWS THAT HITS HOME**  
**EVERY TUESDAY**



Clara Zetkin was a German activist.



Rosa Luxemburg was murdered 100 years ago.

# Bread and Roses

Local Textile Workers active on International Women's Day 2019

The courageous and successful strikes by textile workers in the shirt factories of Manhattan and Massachusetts during 1908 and 1909 were the first ever strikes organised by women and for women's demands such as equal pay. They are seen as the start of women becoming active for their rights in all corners of the globe.

In 1910 the second "World Conference of Socialist Women" was held in Copenhagen/Denmark. It passed a motion by German activists Clara Zetkin and Käthe Dunker to mark and celebrate the struggle of the American mill-workers with a world-wide women's day on March 8 - International Women's Day was born.

The song "Bread and Roses", now famous and sung all over the world in many languages originates from Lawrence / Massachusetts where it was first written down in 1912 - the beautiful tradition of presenting women at work with a flower certainly originates from that.

In Dungiven, textile workers have been keeping the tradition alive for several years now and they are going to do this year.

Linen weaver Marion Baur and members of her small team will be out on March 8 to visit women at work and present them with a red carnation. The owner of County Derry's only active linen-weaving mill is delighted to actually be on the streets herself this time.

"During the past three years I was always asked to speak at a large women's day event in Berlin - this year I made sure



Marion Baur, of Flax Mill, will be presenting women at their work in Dungiven with a red carnation to mark International Women's Day on Friday.

I can be here to visit working women on the day " says Marion who has been involved in activities around March 8 for many years.

"There is absolutely no reason to ease the struggle for women's rights in 2019. In many corners of the world and indeed here in Europe women bear the brunt of economic crisis, suffer from cuts, especially the barbaric lack of money for health-care, are underpaid and find it hard to make the ends meet. Not only are the roses scarce, the bread is hard come-by for many as well."

Marion's team is going to welcome Bronagh Skett for the first time this year. Born in Draperstown, she went to live in New Zealand and was trained as a weaver there. She is now back in the home - place, has her own weaving loom going and does part - time work to Flax Mill.

Marion said: "Great to welcome Bronagh, not just at work but active on International

Women's Day as well."

"Reclaim the Agenda", the broad alliance of women's - rights - activists, trade unionists and politically involved women, is organising a series of events in Northern Ireland this year, highlight will be a rally in Belfast on March 9.

The overall subject of the activities will be commemorating the centenary of the murder of Rosa Luxemburg in Berlin (January 15, 1919). The Member of Parliament and women's rights activist was brutally killed by a group of German elite-soldiers and thrown into the "Landwehr Kanal". Her killers were known to the authorities but never charged.

Marion Baur said: "It's good and right to remember Rosa and her struggle for working people - and especially women's rights, we can learn a lot from it for our lives today."

Marion and her colleagues will be visiting about ten places where women work.

They are proud to be part of a huge and growing number of activities all over the world around March 8. There is no county known now where International Women's Day is not marked in one form or the other.

Marion continued: "It was our sisters in the American mills who started this - I think as textile-workers today we should feel obliged to carry on the good tradition and at the same time be aware that International Women's Day is as far from being just a 'historic event' as ever. Pointing the finger at women's problems and their struggles is as important as it was over a hundred years ago and celebrating their successes is making us happy. There would be no right for women to vote, nothing like equal opportunities to find work, had it not been for the struggle of women of the generations before us. Much has been achieved but much more has to be gained."